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THE GUARDIAN

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Lufthansa cut starts Atlantic air fare war

By JOHN O'CALLAGHAN

Lufthansa, the German airline, yesterday declared a fare war on the North Atlantic route, which could thin out some weaker private enterprise and subsidised competition. Pan American, the leading carrier on the transatlantic route, said at once that it was "determined to remain in competition." BOAC described the Lufthansa decision as "disappointing."

From next February, an excursion return trip by Lufthansa from Frankfurt to New York will cost only £87.50. An ordinary one-way economy flight by Pan American from Frankfurt to New York today costs £135.50. And Air France announced last night that it would apply for a fare even lower than Lufthansa proposes—£75 for Paris-New York return fare for a group.

By extending the time limit for return on its excursion ticket from three weeks to 45 days, Lufthansa seems certain to make this "special" ticket suitable for almost

business and other trips; travellers will want the year validity of the many ticket.

Although standing alone, the other North Atlantic carriers, the Germans expect some other European lines to have shown a "friendly" attitude so far will follow them, now that the cards are down. For the passengers, this experimental phase, which is expected to last between six and 18 months, the price of cheaper fares will be offset by an end to the ticket transferability of the airlines.

The airlines support the new fare structure, which is expected to be introduced in the autumn. The airlines support the new fare structure, which is expected to be introduced in the autumn.

Approved by IATA would produce a fare pattern of gothic complexity—69 different fares, the Germans claim—which would cost an extra £3 millions a year in administrative costs to apply. In addition, Lufthansa claims that the IATA plan would allow for cheating—for example, a passenger booking long in advance could cancel his trip and sell the ticket to a later traveller.

Lufthansa made its announcement in Cologne as the extended deadline ran out for it to agree with the IATA plan. At the same time, the Director-General of IATA, Mr. Knut Hammarskjöld, announced in Geneva that failing agreement from the Germans—fare structures in IATA have to be unanimously agreed—members would be free to choose their own fares from February 1. He said he did not expect this would result in an "all-out price war."

Among the first and most vehement responses to the German initiative came from BOAC, which has led the way with schemes like the Earlybird fare, towards a concept of air fares which Lufthansa has rejected. It is also next up the league table from Lufthansa as the third heaviest transatlantic carrier.

BOAC said: "We shall be asking the Government to introduce the lower fares that

we had expected to achieve by the calm processes of international agreement. The initiative for lower fares originally came from BOAC, and it is disappointing to us that the fares agreement supported by 38 of the 39 airlines concerned should now be upset by Lufthansa to this way."

Pan American, the leading North Atlantic carrier, said it regretted that one of the 22 carriers on the North Atlantic was unable to accept the IATA recommendation. It added that it was "determined to remain in competition." Air Canada warned of "some inconvenience and confusion for the travelling public" but said it would take advantage of the new situation to offer cheaper fares, and simplify the fare structures.

Far from creating a fare jungle on the densely served Atlantic run, the Germans feel that they are taking a necessary step towards simplifying the situation. Already the combinations of high and low season fares, and advance bookings, and winter fares and limited period tickets, has produced 52 categories of fare; this would have increased under the IATA plan to 69. The Germans feel that with only eight fares, the public will be served more efficiently.

Lufthansa regards the present situation as experimental and will use the time to test customer reaction. When its customers have expressed a view, Lufthansa wants to talk with its fellow IATA members again. "Lufthansa is convinced, now, as before, of the need for international agreement within the framework of IATA," it said. The earliest date for more talks would be the IATA meeting next autumn.

Lufthansa's ordinary first-class and economy fares will not be changed; the airline clearly intends to embrace most of its passengers in the excursion category. Lufthansa, the Icelandic airline, may find much of the ground cut from under its feet by Lufthansa, in its role of the cheap carrier to America. Lines like Aer Lingus, with slender resources and depending on services to America, could be hurt by the German initiative, which Pan Am and TWA can weather almost any storm.

One major brake remains preventing Lufthansa, or any line, from scooping the transatlantic pool—the route licences, which mean that the German line can apply its fares from Frankfurt but not, for instance, from London. There are no direct flights by Lufthansa from London to the American east coast.

Salient features from the new eight-stage German fare scheme are: Low season round trip, excursion fare, valid for from 14 to 45 days—£87.50. High season excursion—£112.50. Youth tariff for 12 to 21-year-olds, low season—£91. Youth tariff, high season—£100.

Leader comment, page 12; Report, page 16

Footnote: The Finance Ministers of Group of Ten devoted first meeting in London today to speeches when they met to discuss the dollar

problem before them is, how many thousands in dollars the rest of the world is owed by the US. The balance of payments is not too easy to agree.

John Connolly, the US Treasury, put about \$13,000 millions; Pierre-Paul Schweitzer, director of the International Monetary Fund, suggested \$8,000 millions. The US, through Signor Ferrarini, argued that it was not able to aim at a US \$100 billion at this stage; it would be a shock for a world economy and trade were adjusted to a He suggested a gradual res towards balance.

Japanese Finance Minister Masuzaki, said that Japan is not afforded to big a contribution to the pool because economy was in a bad way, apologised for Japan's imbalanced surplus this year, and it would not happen again. Anthony Barber did not say or he might have apolo-

Footnote: A short circuit at General Electric

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Closely observed by Russell Johnston MP (left) and John Pardue MP (right), the new President of the Liberal Party, Mr Stephen Terrell, QC, yesterday advised Young Liberals who did not believe in liberalism to get out and join another party

Liberal views defined

By FRANCIS BOYD, Political Correspondent

Liberalism in action was the theme of the opening day of the Liberal assembly in Scarborough yesterday. The final debate—on Lord Wade's motion reaffirming total opposition to the Immigration Bill—brought all sections of the party into agreement.

Even the Young Liberals who have been criticised the most for their performance of their party, recognised that Liberal members of both Houses had worked hard to modify the Bill.

Mr Stephen Terrell, QC, president-elect of the party, opened with a definition of liberalism intended to exclude those (unnamed) members of the Young Liberals thought to be acting against the interests of the party.

Mr Terrell, who helped to prepare a report on relations between the Young Liberals and the party for Mr Thorpe, had been expected to come to the assembly to deliver a speech.

Mr Hain, however, managed to look studiously vacant, and patted the table in applause when Mr Terrell had finished.

The president-elect's definition of liberalism as "freedom—no licence. We uphold the rule of law not only because it is the means of protecting our own individual freedom, but also because it sets the limit so that freedom does not encroach upon the equal rights of our neighbours to their freedom."

He then attacked those he thought were attacking liberalism—advocates of "way-out" policies which the party had not approved; demonstrators damaging other people's property; those who used "gimmicky slogans more reminiscent of Socialism or anarchism than liberalism."

Such people, he said, should realise that the majority of Liberals had dedicated much of their time and energy in sustaining the true faith of liberalism, and were not prepared to see the Liberal Party baulked from carrying out its duty to give our fellow men the opportunity of Liberal representation at local and national level.

Better, he said, that the people he had criticised should get out and join a party which has no aspirations at all, or one which is not dedicated as we are to liberalism.

Mr Terrell's report found that there were few complaints from senior Liberals about the Young Liberals, but that there was

Turn to back page, col. 7

Catholics turn bitter as 219 are interned

By SIMON WINCHESTER

Mr Brian Faulkner's announcement yesterday that more than 200 of the men detained under the terms of the Special Powers Act have now been formally and indefinitely interned has produced a mood of deep and bitter disappointment among Northern Ireland's Roman Catholic minority.

Opposition politicians who earlier this week were beginning to take a conciliatory view of the crucial London talks to be chaired by Mr Maudling have now firmly slammed the door in the Home Secretary's face.

Minority rights groups in Ulster have condemned the decision, under which many more men have been interned than had been anticipated. The IRA, still very much in evidence in Belfast, Londonderry, and all the county areas in spite of the internment policy, is confidently expected to react swiftly.

Street rioting that broke out in the Ardoyne and Old Park areas of Belfast yesterday cannot be directly ascribed to Mr Faulkner's announcement, but the province is extremely tense, and the IRA Provisionals can be expected to take advantage of a situation that has angered many thousands of Catholics, whether they are IRA supporters or not.

Interment orders, issued under Regulation 12 of the Special Powers Act, were delivered to each of the 219 men at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, soon after the release of 14 detainees, most of whom are believed to have been members of the People's Democracy. A further 29 men are still being held in the internment cells in Crumlin Road gaol and on board the prison ship Maidstone. It is assumed that some may face criminal charges and others may be released.

Mr Faulkner went to some length to justify his Government's moral position on the formal introduction of a policy of internment without trial for the first time in 10 years. "Those who uphold the rights of the individual should also consider the rights of society as a whole," he said.

The community was being intimidated and the policy had been introduced for the protection of the citizens of Northern Ireland. The measures had not been directed against the Roman Catholics as a religious group, but against the organisations that sponsored and practised violence.

The Government, Mr Faulkner said, had been forced to make a pre-emptive move against these organisations, and it would continue to pursue relentlessly men belonging to them.

Mr Faulkner said that more than 80 of those interned were officers in the Provisional and Official wings of the IRA, but it is known that many who

have been held are fairly elderly, have been interned before during previous campaigns, and are probably no longer active members of the IRA.

Many of these men would make up the "Old Cooptables," as it were, of the IRA, and there were some surprises that Mr Faulkner had chosen to crack down so heavily on them.

Active leaders of the Provisionals, such as Mr Billy Kelly and Mr Joe Cahill, have now escaped beyond the jurisdiction of the Stormont Government. Their influence on IRA tactics and the emergence of new and tougher leaders of the movement have ensured that the IRA is still very much a force to be reckoned with.

To this extent, the internment policy has so far palpably failed, though the emphasis has changed of late to include rural terrorism as well as urban violence.

Faulkner statement, page 6; Other Ulster news, back page

Canada buys Tristar

AIR CANADA announced yesterday that it has signed a new contract to buy 10 Lockheed Tristar jets with an option on nine others. The contract is a modification of an earlier agreement made in December, 1968. The aircraft will cost \$18.1 millions each (about £7 millions) — an increase of only \$840,000 (about £250,000) after Lockheed's and Rolls-Royce difficulties.

'Bunny' charge

A MAN was charged yesterday with the attempted murder and rape of the "bunny girl" Antonia Drabczyk. She was found injured in Reading on Saturday morning. William Kenneth Asher (22), a factory worker, of Donnington Gardens, Reading, will appear in court today.

Anti-smoking

THE GOVERNMENT has given £100,000 for a television anti-smoking campaign to the Health Education Council. Beginning on Sunday, Independent Television will show four films, one of which suggests that smoking saps sex appeal. The whole campaign will cost £132,000.

UN chief

THE FINNISH representative at the UN, Mr Max Jakobson, is likely to be Britain's choice as successor to U Thant as Secretary-General.

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OVERSEAS NEWS

Sir Alec helps wash away sour taste of Anglo-Egyptian past

From DAVID HURST: Cairo, September 15

Sir Alec Douglas-Home left Cairo for Morocco today after what both sides evidently consider to have been a quietly successful visit in terms of Anglo-Egyptian relations. But it is clearly going to make little impact on the search for a Middle East peace settlement which was the main concern of the talks.

Its success lies mainly perhaps in the final symbolic eradication of the bad memories of the past. If it took the spectacle of Sir Alec astride a camel by the

'Worse than Rogers'

From WALTER SCHWARZ

Jerusalem, September 15

An Israeli official tonight called Sir Alec Douglas-Home's ideas on Middle East peace "worse than the Rogers plan."

From Israelis, that is, is a

renewed.

The Foreign Ministry today

received from the British

Embassy a full text of what Sir

Alec said to his Egyptian hosts

in Cairo on Monday night.

Officials commented that there

was nothing really new in

Britain's support "for the total

withdrawal" idea expressed by

Dr Jarring in his peace initiative

last February. It was

"worse than Rogers" in that

the United States Secretary of

State, in his 1969 plan, had at

least allowed for minor adjust-

ments in the pre-1967 borders.

In particular, the officials felt

that Sir Alec's timing was

wrong. "Since there is now no

negotiation going on regarding

the borders of peace, and since

the matter has to be worked

out in free negotiation, Sir

Alec's intervention was not a

positive contribution towards

peace," the officials said.

They also complained of a

contradiction between Sir

Alec's reference to "agreed

borders" and his attempt to

draw the borders in advance of

agreement.

Sir Alec has drawn as

expected an almost Pavlovian

response from the Israelis

because he committed the sin of

drawing boundaries in advance

of negotiation, Israelis feel

passionately that this merely

encourages the Egyptians to

insist on "all or nothing" —

and thereby makes peace more

remote than ever. However,

part of this pique is put on

because Israeli hopes of early

prospects for peace, or even a

partial settlement, are almost

at zero anyway.

Perhaps Sir Alec would have

got away more lightly if he had

not agreed to be photographed

in Arab clothing. He is

expected here early next year

and one official suggested to me

tonight off the record — that

the Foreign Secretary should be

invited to put on a skull cap

and prayer shawl.

Mr Abba Eban, the Foreign

Minister, left here tonight for

London on a day's private visit

— his mother lives there — on

his way to New York, where he

will press the case for a

resumption of American deliv-

eries of Phantom fighter-

bombers for Israel. Mr Eban

expects to be in London again

on his way back from New

York.

End of line

The Lunokhod moon vehicle is weakening and may be nearing the end of its life, according to a Russian report.

pyramids to bring the message home then that, diplomatically as well as physically, was the high point of his visit.

His gesture may have amused Egyptians, but it did not cause derision. That can be gauged from the protective way they

defend Sir Alec (who was practically forced by his own compatriots to get on a creature

anyway) against British criticism which to them and to some

British diplomats too, sounds like a pompous voice from the

past. As an Egyptian diplomatic correspondent said:

"They are our pyramids, we are proud of them and Sir Alec is welcome to ride on one of

our camels too."

Similarly, for those with more detailed memories, the

spectacle of a British Foreign Secretary explaining himself to

Egyptians at a press conference in the Hilton Hotel, where

British Army barracks once stood, is another reminder of

how things have changed.

It is perhaps this climate of

affability which may have led

some Egyptians to believe that

the visit will have more positive results, in terms of peace-

seeking diplomacy, than any of

Sir Alec's public statements seem to warrant.

He kept saying that he had

gained further than his Harro-

gate speech the basic text of

Britain's new, supposedly "pro-

Arab" stance — and when I

asked the diplomatic correspondent what new

could detect in Sir Alec's

speech on Monday night, he

replied: "Ah, but he made it in

Egypt, and after sitting on the

camel."

In his press conference Sir

Alec resolutely resisted all

efforts to draw him into a

detailed interpretation of his

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TWO days of fine weather have temporarily improved the mood and the prospects of the many refugees and West Bengal peasants washed out of their camps and roadside huts as the Northern Bengal floods have spread southwards.

Twenty-five of the 32 refugee camps in the Bangaon district 50 miles north-west of Calcutta have been affected by the floods and some have had to be abandoned. Every yard of higher ground on the road from Bangaon to Boirda is now occupied by refugees, many of whom have had to move their makeshift dwellings from stretches of road now deep under water.

According to Bangaon officials, perhaps 100,000 people, refugees and locals, are now cut off in the sense that road vehicles cannot reach them. But supplies are getting through, carried by a combination of country hosts and bullock carts, to the camps and to the villages to which there is now no access by road.

The past two days of a good weather have brought a period of feverish rebuilding. Since most homes in West Bengal sit on a platform of baked mud, along the road to Boirda refugee and other families are rebuilding the mud floors of their houses on the roadside and shaping new dried mud ovens.

In none of the camps or

Refugees try to rebuild homes

From MARTIN WOOLACOTT: Boirda, (West Bengal), September 15

refugee settlements I visited in the past two days there was yet a serious shortage of food, and the village markets display the usual range of foodstuffs and other goods.

In low-lying camps, where there is no possibility of a mass move to higher ground, the Indian authorities have saved the day, as they did earlier in Northern Bengal, by supplying quantities of split bamboo to build raised platforms above the water level inside the tents and huts.

For the moment the picture is even sometimes misleadingly idyllic. Refugee and village children are treating the flood waters as giant swimming baths and splash happily around submerged bridges and huts. Losses of livestock have not been heavy, although damage to crops and buildings, not yet estimated, will be high. About 150 square miles of the district is now under water.

If the waters continue to rise, the supply situation will, of course, deteriorate. The Indian Air Force dropped food to villagers in the more northerly Malda district 10 days ago. Indeed the situation in parts of North Bengal is far more disturbing than in the south. Buffer stocks of food have been dispersed in refugee aid and not yet replaced. Some reports suggest that the stocks in Cooch Behar are as low as one week's supply.

Even if these problems are successfully handled — and the



Indian authorities, to whom flood relief is a familiar chore, are doing well so far — the floods have delayed the introduction of a serious anti-malnutrition campaign in the camps not only in Bengal, but also in Assam and Tripura. Floods occur with tragic regularity in Bengal and, though there is generally, but this year's floods in Bengal are somewhat worse than usual.

They are regarded as particularly significant only because they compound the problem of the refugees. West Bengal, whose Government has spent infinitely more on flood control measures than on flood relief, has required the influx of millions of refugees to make control measures a big political issue here again.

Brandt defends visit Storm grows over Attica killings

From NORMAN CROSSLAND: Bonn, September 15

On the eve of his journey to the Crimea to meet the Soviet Communist Party leader, Mr Brezhnev, the West German Chancellor, Herr Brandt, said the meeting did not represent a go-it-alone on the part of Bonn.

After accepting the invitation, the Federal Government had informed its allies about the visit and had since had consultations with them. These would be continued after his return.

The Chancellor, who was speaking at a cabinet meeting, replied to press criticism that his talks would be with the Soviet leadership and not with the Government. (Mr Kosygin, the Prime Minister,

will not be present.) Some papers had reported that Herr Brandt would be seeing "only Brezhnev."

To this the Chancellor replied: "Nobody says when I go to Paris to meet the President that I am seeing 'only Pompidou.' The French comparison was appropriate, as the French are said to be particularly nettled at the thought of the Brandt-Brezhnev tête-à-tête. The French Government prefers to make the running in Eastern Europe."

Herr Brandt's talks will deal with East-West relations, prospects for a European security conference, the Four-Power agreement on

Berlin, and a variety of bilateral matters, such as trade and scientific and cultural exchanges. Bonn maintains the view that serious preparations for a security conference cannot be made until all stages of the Berlin agreement are complete.

Obviously the Chancellor will suggest to Mr Brezhnev that Moscow should persuade the East Germans to get down to negotiations with Bonn and to stop creating difficulties about the German text of the agreement.

The meeting between Herr Brandt and Mr Brezhnev is to take place in the small Black Sea town of Oreanda, near Yalta.



U Thant with Mr Adam Malik, of Indonesia, who will be president of the new session of the UN General Assembly

U Thant sets successor problem for the Great Powers

From RICHARD SCOTT: Washington, September 15

U Thant's statement yesterday that under no circumstances would he be prepared to remain secretary-general of the United Nations, even for a brief period, after the expiry of his present, second term in December, is regarded here as unequivocal and final. The United Nations will have to find a successor.

In the past this has not proved an easy task. That is hardly surprising. The candidate has to be acceptable to both Communist and capitalist countries — to the developed and underdeveloped world — to Arabs and Jews to those who want a strong and independent secretary-general, and those who prefer one who is pliant; and bureaucratic.

He can only be selected from a nation which is widely regarded as reasonably independent of the world's main political power blocks, a reasonably neutral nation, almost inevitably a smaller nation. These requirements severely limit the available choice.

Since the creation of the world organisation there have been only three secretaries-general. Two were drawn from Scandinavia — Trygve Lie of Norway and his successor Dag Hammarskjöld of Sweden — and the current incumbent, U Thant, is Burmese. Of the present candidates for the post, another Scandinavian is outstanding — Finland's Ambassador to the UN, Maj Jakobson, a former journalist, a man of

principle, high integrity, and undoubted ability.

There is no question about Jakobson's capacity to fill the post. He would almost certainly prove a "strong" secretary-general. But do the Russians want that? Jakobson also happens to be Jewish, though even this Arab colleagues concede his objectivity over their country's conflict with Israel.

Other candidates include the world representatives of Ethiopia, Ceylon and Australia. Their support seems to be more sectional than that of Jakobson.

The procedure for the election of a new secretary-general is for the Security Council to recommend a candidate and for the full Assembly to appoint him.

Mr William Kunstler, the lawyer who has one of those who attempted to mediate between the prisoners and the authorities, said last night that he believed Mr Rockefeller was "a barbaric murderer." It was clear, he said, that more decent people inside the walls of the prison than outside.

Funeral processions for two prison guards moved through the

Pamphlets in Dean's flat 'planted'

From STANLEY UYS, Cape Town, September 15

The Dean of Johannesburg, the Very Rev Gonville Dean-Beytagh, alleged in the Pretoria Supreme Court that a cardboard box, containing leaflets of the United African National Congress, found in his flat must have been "planted" there. He said the security police

had raided his flat, produced a box, which he had never seen before, from a cupboard in a spare room. There was an aura of excitement, glee, and triumph when the Dean found the box. When he saw the contents of the box, he was shocked and frightened. He knew "something evil was going on."

Describing the raid last January, the Dean said that when he returned to his flat, he found five or six "large men" in the lift with him. When they got out, he saw the men put down the box. He became apprehensive when they identified themselves as police and produced a search warrant.

The Dean, who faces charges under the Terrorism Act, including plotting the violent overthrow of the South African Government, was giving evidence in his own defence for the second day.

From the leaflets, the Dean said, he took them to his office and showed them to St Mary's Cathedral, where a group of policemen were waiting. They took them to his sermon notes — "the Dean said, I am most regretted that the King of my Lent course which has been with the life of Jesus."

Mr Sidney Kentridge, the Dean's counsel, asked him if he had seen anyone who could have planted the box. It could have been anyone, he said.

Mr Kentridge: Do you believe the police planted it? — I am quite certain they did not. The evidence on that occasion, I believe, they were acting on.

Mr Kentridge: You say you saw many people? — I saw a State Command threatening letter. My car was burnt out and three insurance companies refused to pay the insurance. They did not think it was an accident. The insurance company seemed to be a very good one. It was not a fraud and I was not required to pay.

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The Dean

Congress on SW Africa

From our Correspondent

Lusaka, September 15

The South-west African People's Organisation (SWAPO) is opening up a new front in its protracted campaign to wrest the disputed territory from South Africa — this time in Europe.

Early signs look hopeful for the staging of a multinational conference between February 22 and 25 in Brussels.

It is expected to be attended by Mr Dialelo Telli, Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity, and by representatives of Amnesty International, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers, the International Commission of Jurists, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, the London-based International Defence and Aid Fund, Church organisations and many others, as well as by delegates from African countries.

No divisions

Support for the conference has also been promised from Scandinavian countries, and the influential opposition Parti Socialiste Belge has agreed to host the conference.

The main aim will be to focus attention in Europe — particularly in a NATO country — on the cause for trying to end South African white domination in South-west Africa.

SWAPO is one of the more impressive liberation movements and is comparatively free from the kind of bitter tribal divisions which debilitate Rhodesian and other movements. It uses Lusaka as its main base and increased guerrilla activity against the South Africans is suggested by recent sabotage incidents in the Caprivi Strip — the thin corridor of land sandwiched between Botswana and Zambia and heavily guarded by South African troops, some of whom were blown up when their jeep hit a landmine near the Zambezi frontier a few months ago.

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Cultural winter over for China's writers

From DONALD BRENNER: Hongkong, September 15

The long winter is ending for writing in China. Literary output is changing to match China's present mood of international relaxation, political moderation, and increased foreign contacts.

In a significant shift from the past few years, writers of books, magazines, and pamphlets are being allowed, even encouraged, to grow out of the narrow ideological mould into which they were forced by the Cultural Revolution.

No longer are reading materials to be limited largely to the ideas of Chairman Mao and their application to everything from daily life to affairs of State. History, literature, art, science and technology, geography, and international events, are once again approved subjects for writers, who are officially urged to "publish more and better popular reading material."

These are sensitive fields, and writing will still be expected to conform to current political orthodoxy. But writers are exhorted to try, and their "mistakes" will be corrected by criticism.

Recent visitors to China say the effects of the new policy are already apparent. New short stories and novels are appearing in bookshops where no new fiction has been displayed for nearly five years. While heavily political, they are more than just paraphrases of Mao.

The change is another major liberalisation and an especially important one in view of the rôle of published material in China. Literature and art are viewed as propaganda vehicles for shaping public opinion, either for or against the aims of the regime. Leading figures in these fields were among the first to be attacked in the opening days of the Cultural Revolution nearly six years ago.

Scores of writers and editors were discredited, and most national and provincial popular magazines and periodicals were suspended. Books and magazines were reported burned in the streets by Red Guards. Only a handful of Chinese publications have been available for sale abroad, compared with dozens before the Cultural Revolution.

The Peking leadership probably would not ease the strictures on writing as long as opponents remained in position to use publications for hidden attacks. The present relaxation indicates that Chinese leaders are confident that the most serious opposition has been overcome, and they no longer need fear subversion through literature and art.

"Red Flag," the ideological journal of the Communist Party, gave another reason in an article setting the new course — it answers the popular demand for more nonpolitical writing.

The broad masses have put forward higher demands for popular reading material on literature and art, science and technology, history, geography, international events, and so forth," the paper said. Striving to publish more such works was "an important task for publishing circles."

In addition, "Red Flag" said, if people's demand for popular works is not met with the right kind of books and magazines, they will be poisoned by the wrong sort of materials.

"The class struggle in the ideological field is still continuing," the journal said. "A handful of class enemies, as well as the old force of habit of the exploiting classes, are employing ways and means to corrupt young people through various channels with feudal, bourgeois, and revisionist poisonous weeds in an attempt to contend with us for the next generation." Los Angeles Times.



Senator McGovern

Stolen paintings in attic

Venice, September 15

Police today recovered five stolen Renaissance paintings valued at \$1.5 million from the attic of an abandoned old people's home. They believe they may also be on the brink of retrieving a stolen Titian masterpiece.

At dawn two motorboat loads of police, carabinieri, and Customs officers converged on the island of Poveglia in Venice lagoon and found the paintings — two panels of a triptych by Giovanni Bellini, and all three of another by Bartolomeo Vivarini.

Dr Francesco Valcanover, superintendent of galleries and art works in the Venice region, said later that police were on the brink of finding the Titian picture of a Madonna between two saints, stolen from the painter's birthplace at Pieve di Cadore near the Austrian border.

The police said they paid an informer \$3,300 to learn the whereabouts of the five pictures. The sum was offered some days ago by the president of the Italian committee for Venice, Professor Bruno Visentini, for information leading to the recovery of the paintings.

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HOME AND OVERSEAS

Dahrendorf articles questioned by European Parliament

From a Special Correspondent: Brussels, September 15

The European Commission faces one of its most embarrassing confrontations yet with European Parliament. Next week, the president of the Parliament's Christian Democratic group, Herr Hans-August Lucker, of the West German Bundestag, will ask the commission for its views on two articles in which Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, commissioner responsible for foreign relations, strongly criticised the structure of the Common Market. This will be the first time that a member of the commission has been attacked in public by members of another Community institution.

Veiled threat by police

From MARGOT MAYNE: Paris, September 15

Flanked by four of his dismissed colleagues, M. Gerald Monate, general secretary of the Fédération of Police Unions, gave a warning at a press conference today of extremely tough action by the unions unless the Government eased its hard line against the police.

Holding a press conference on police grievances is an unprecedented event, and is seen as an act of defiance in itself against the Minister of the Interior, M. Marcellin, whose recent severity has not relieved a tense situation. Five hundred and fifty telegrams of support from police unions all over France had expressed determination not to rest until the dismissed men were reinstated, M. Monate said.

M. Monate offered the alternatives: "If the Government gives up some of its authority, there will be no conflict. Otherwise, we will be forced to launch an extremely tough action by resuming all our rights of citizens." These include the constitutional right to strike, denied to the police by a series of postwar laws.

The United Nations Police had unanimously agreed at its Evian congress last week to invade the Prime Minister's office if their case was not heard. But this had not meant that they would arrive armed with machine guns, said M. Monate, merely that a delegation would stay there until they were heard.

To represent them as being intent on anti-Govern-

ment action for political reasons was totally false. It was true that not all the police voted for the Gaullist Party, but politics were not an issue.

Almost immediately after the unions had received a conciliatory letter from the Prime Minister, M. Chaban-Delemas, M. Marcellin yesterday announced the dismissal of five leading police union members. He had promised last June that the chief police officers would be met before the autumn. But on September 3, he issued a new scheme which ignored their main complaints.

He was evidently unwilling to acknowledge that these were extremely strong and deep concerns. They concerned mainly bonuses, not basic pay. Above this, the men wanted a thorough overhaul of the way the police were used. They were not the Government's mercenaries.

The implication was that they resented being used in ways that increased the public sense of being under surveillance. Certainly, half a dozen stationary police vans containing 20 or 30 uniformed men are seen almost every night on Paris streets.

If no compromise is reached at a meeting between M. Marcellin and a police delegation, the press was told, the federation will meet to discuss further action. They refused to clarify this might include defiance of Article 17 of the Police Code which bans all appeals to collective indiscipline.

French to pay more for alcohol

From our Correspondent: Paris, September 15

Alcohol and tobacco would cost more next year but the income tax level would not change, M. Giscard d'Estaing, the Finance Minister, said today after the Cabinet had approved the 1972 Budget.

M. Giscard said the Budget would be balanced, with both outlay and income would rise by about 9.5 per cent, at the same rhythm as overall production.

A greater proportion of the total expenditure would be allocated to public transport, hospitals, roads, technical schools, retired people, and families with four or more children. Promises of tax relief to non-union members would live to wait until 1973. Defence costs would rise by 8.1 per cent.

After the Cabinet meeting, President Pompidou said that France was maintaining a high level of expansion and employment in the world suffering from recession. No unexpected increases in police pay were announced, although police meeting here today said their promised allocation in the 1972 Budget was totally insufficient.

The Budget will next be debated by the National Assembly during its autumn session.

The cause is two articles that appeared this summer in the German weekly "Die Zeit", and were reported at length in the Guardian of August 3. In them, Dahrendorf, using the pseudonym of Wieland Europa, also criticised many of the Community's existing policies. He described the commission as "a bureaucratic Leviathan" and the European parliament sessions as "a farce".

The articles were greeted outside the commission as provoking a much-needed debate about the nature of the Community. But the debate has turned sour for two reasons. Calling for Dahrendorf's resignation, the CDU members of the Bundestag used the opportunity to renew their campaign for a CDU member of the commission. At present, the West German quota is made up of Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, a Social Democrat, and Dahrendorf himself, who is a member of the Free Democratic Party.

Secondly, Professor Dahrendorf came up against the principle of the collegiality of the nine-man commission. According to this, the commission must always present a formal unanimous front to the outside world.

The commission has had some painful deliberations about the consequences of Dahrendorf's articles, and has yet to adopt a final position. Dr Sizzo Mansholt, commissioner responsible for agriculture, who holds the traditional view that the commission is the nucleus of a future European Government, has implied that Dahrendorf should resign.

His argument is believed to rest firmly on the collegiate principle. If Dahrendorf's views are not shared by all the members of the commission then Dahrendorf should offer his resignation. The CDU group to the European Parliament is asking the commission if it is of the opinion that, in the eyes of European public opinion, Dahrendorf's articles "seriously harm the responsibility and authority of the commission." Although the SPD, the Gaullists, and the liberal groups in the European Parliament have said they will not join in the argument next Thursday, the debate promises to be lively.

5 Greeks held by Rome police

Five Greeks said to belong to an exiled anti-Government organisation have been arrested in Rome. They have been charged with possessing dynamite and other explosives.

The police said yesterday that the five were arrested in a police raid on Tuesday.

secondary school children who went to school this morning, were enrolled and given their timetables and then told to go home. As Thursday is a weekly holiday, classes will not resume until Friday when the teachers are expected to return.

Eight trade unions representing almost all the 200,000 secondary teachers, had ordered a 24-hour strike, in protest against "the disturbing degradation in working conditions and the reduction of holidays." They complained that the Education Minister, Olivier Guichard, had refused to listen to their complaints.

Mr Guichard said the strike was unjustified, as the teachers' unions were already represented on the education councils, and had every opportunity of being heard.

Economist stabbed

President Yahya Khan's economic adviser, Mr Mian Muzfar Ahmad, was taken to hospital with an abdominal wound yesterday after a man had entered his office in Rawalpindi, drawn a knife, and stabbed him.

Government officials said later that the assailant was an air-conditioning supervisor who had recently been dismissed from the Government's Capital Development Authority.

Hospital spokesmen said Mr Ahmad was not in danger. — Reuter.



Nafiseh, an Iranian model (foreground), wearing a fur ensemble based on early miniatures and peasant costumes. It has been designed, with those in the background, in honour of the twenty-fifth centenary of the founding of the Persian Empire and was shown at the Iranian embassy in London yesterday. The gold leather coat with purple Persian lamb yoke is worn with a white ermine top and matching purple calf floor-length skirt.

More for arms than education

From RICHARD BOURNE: Geneva, September 15

"Developed" states of the world are still spending more on defence than on education, whereas developing countries, with all their military commitments, have their priorities the other way round. A paper by UNESCO for the International Conference of Education here gives some disturbing new statistics on the global state of formal education systems.

In 1967, all countries, excluding China, North Korea, and North Vietnam, were spending 7.2 per cent of the world's gross national product on arms and armies, as against 5 per cent on education and 2.5 per cent on health. For North America, the relevant percentages were 9.1, 5.9, and 2.3; for Europe, including the USSR, 7.2, 4.7, and 3.1. In the United Kingdom, the balance between education and defence shifted in favour of education last year.

By contrast the percentages in Africa were 4.3 (defence), 4.2 (education), and 1.5 (health). In Asia, they were 2.9, 3.8, and 0.5; and in Latin America, they were 2.2, 3.6, and 1.7. The only group of developing countries with an advanced sense of priorities were the Arab States "for obvious reasons," as the paper adds.

Worldwide public expenditure in education, the delegates learned more than doubled from 34,000 millions in 1960 to 132,000 millions in 1968. But these resources and gains were remarkably concentrated, making the poorest child in Harlem or Glasgow a veritable Etroian by world standards.

In 1968, 120,000 millions were spent on education in developed countries, compared with 12,000 millions in the rest; in fact, the share of the developing countries actually declined from 9 per cent in 1960 to 8.5 per cent, five years later, and has remained about stationary since then. The rate of increase of spending in both sectors of the world has been falling back in the latter half of the sixties.

While the proselytes of "deschooling" spread out from the US, the rest of the world is still struggling along, attempting to make up for the loss of more children into orthodox schooling. Between 1960-61 and

1967-8, the percentage of primary children throughout the world attending school at any level rose from 63 per cent to 68 per cent; the figures for secondary school age rose from 32 per cent to 39 per cent.

The biggest job was in higher education, again largely concentrated in the wealthy world. Whereas in 1960-61 there were six students for every 100 people aged 20-24, seven years later there were 10. In Europe the proportion almost doubled to 16.1 per cent and in North America half the age group was in higher education.

Figures comparing the input and output of school systems show that in Africa, for instance, the median cost to the system for everyone who completed a primary course was twice what it should be. This meant that dropping out and the repetition of terms was taking place on such a scale that, had this not happened, twice as many primary graduates could have been produced.

Being run by the International Bureau of Education a UNESCO agency, the conference was on the chance of success at school in relation to a child's social background — has had another paper which throws doubt on the comforting British platitude that it is easier for a working-class background to get into higher education than for his counterparts elsewhere.

Although 27.2 per cent of United Kingdom students are of working-class background, compared with 23.9 per cent of Norwegian students, for example, workers as a percentage of the total active population are quoted as being only 55.4 per cent in Norway compared with 71.5 per cent in the United Kingdom.

Introducing the conference Mr John Forbes, acting director-general of UNESCO, said that for too long been considered an optional if not a luxury adjunct to the traditional education systems. But it was now considered to be "irreplaceable" particularly for children from the most disadvantaged groups.

Better homes aid racial harmony

Finance companies should be compelled to quote their rates of interest in all advertisements for loans and in agreements for house purchase. This is one of the recommendations by the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration which would help everybody living in deprived areas.

Members of the immigrant community often have difficulty in raising mortgages from local councils or building societies for the shabby city centre property that so often is their first home. They may turn to less reputable finance houses which charge interest rates of anywhere between 13.4 per cent and 24.6 per cent, the report says. This compares with a building society interest rate of 9.4 per cent.

Other proposals to help to prevent such obvious exploitation include the suggestion that building societies should consider greater flexibility in their attitude towards older property with the possible introduction of slightly higher interest rates to cover added risk. The report also presses for greater provision of local legal advice on housing.

The committee's other recommendations cover such subjects as: overcrowding, harassment, housing associations, urban renewal, and the provision of pre-emptive activities in deprived areas. These changes would benefit other less privileged sections of society as well as immigrants, who face many of the same problems.

Vague figures

The report says that the Government should work out some means of collecting accurate information and statistics about their housing. It is abundant evidence we took that the extent of the problem of immigrant housing is not known either to Central Government or to local authorities.

We were hampered throughout our inquiry by our inability to get the facts, and we cannot understand either how local authorities know their own needs and make them known to the Central Government or how the Central Government can respond realistically without much more accurate estimates on which to base its decisions.

The Government should also see what is necessary to help immigrants to find work in the new and expanding towns and escape the overcrowded city centres. Councils building new developments should remember that immigrants may have special needs, such as bigger homes. They should also think of allocating sites for different forms of worship in new developments, and employ immigrants on their staffs, particularly where they might have frequent contact with immigrants. Councils, the Government, building societies, and housing associations should publish housing information in other languages.

The Select Committee decided to limit its investigation to a single session, but still managed to visit areas of high racial tension, including Lambeth, Lewisham, and Paddington in London, and Birmingham, Bedford, Nottingham, and Bradford.

"We do not find it strange that immigrants should settle, and continue to live, in particular areas," the committee says. "For so long it has surprised us that the later the coloured immigrants should be found in the centres of towns, where housing is often inferior to that of the suburbs."

"Immigrant heads of households have come to this country to find work they cannot get in their own countries, and their journeys here, often exorbitantly high in relation to their resources, must be repaid; the standards of living in this country are higher; many wish to send money home to their families."

Rough guide

"For these reasons, it would be natural for immigrants, many of whom are in lower paid, unskilled employment, to seek the cheapest housing available. The cheapest housing will tend to be the poorer housing in the centres of towns and cities. Many immigrants will therefore buy or rent old decaying houses to live in them in overcrowded conditions."

The committee stresses the abysmal lack of accurate information, partly the result of the unreliability of the 1966 census. The committee found that during house-to-house research, the highest discrepancies being in areas of immigrant multi-occupation. So the 6.7 per cent coloured immigrant proportion of the population there can only be a very rough guide.

The report is specific about the housing conditions. In Lambeth we saw how a tiny one-bedroom flat was divided into three bedrooms by a partition wall and a door. The cramped living conditions — in one: partitioned part of a room not more than seven feet by nine feet were beds and cots for four people — and by the lack of amenity and playing space for children. But we were impressed by the efforts of many tenants to make such depressing premises into clean and habitable homes for their families.

The report stresses the effect of housing on race relations.

PLANNING correspondent Judy Hillman looks at the recommendations made by the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration which would help everybody living in deprived areas.

"Improvements in housing, both of indigenous people and immigrants, will improve race relations because they remove some deep causes of friction and resentment. Failure to cope with bad housing has the reverse effect."

"We assume that the next 10 years or so will be the testing time for race relations. We were told many times that the immigrants have put up with bad housing conditions because they are often better than those from which they came. Their children, born and brought up here, will make comparisons not with countries they have never seen but with what they see around them."

The committee says immigrants will gradually disperse, partly because their social, economic, and educational needs would be better served. However, dispersal may also be a matter of individual choice.

Obstacles should be removed and it should be made much easier for immigrants to find work and move into homes in new and expanding towns. The committee also calls for a department of the Environment's surprise at there being 2,000 Asians in Crawley: "Since new and expanding towns provide an outlet not only for overcrowded populations but also an opportunity for voluntary dispersal, we would have expected the department to be better aware of what is happening in them."

The report also suggests the establishment of a standing committee of all London boroughs to discuss the dispersal of immigrants.

The appointment of welfare officers in slum clearance areas could help to prevent immigrants moving to other districts with equally poor, crowded housing. However, the committee places special emphasis on the role of rehabilitation in providing immigrants with better homes. The Government should study the advantages of speeding the improvement programme. It should urge local authorities to consider the necessary extra finance.

The report suggests there may be further scope for housing associations, but stresses the importance of administrative and operational standards. "Where they are small, as they often are, they are more likely to be successful," the committee says. It would also like to see official guidance on the legality of selling housing association properties to tenants.

Harassment

Harassment — always, more likely in the overcrowded conditions in which many immigrants live — raises its head once again and the committee suggests some remedying in the relevant acts. The word "persistently" has apparently caused particular difficulty.

In Lewisham last year there were only eight prosecutions after 196 interviews. Three had to be withdrawn because the witnesses had disappeared. Westminster investigated 500 cases, 170 related to coloured immigrants, in 1970. However, it started proceedings for harassment only 18 times since 1965. The evidence shows that eight of these involved coloured immigrants, either as landlords or tenants.

It also demonstrates the extraordinarily low level of fines — £15, £12, £50, £5, £20. The committee said it felt that it would be worthwhile for councils to appoint special officers where there was known harassment to assess its extent and follow up alleged cases.

A major problem which follows exorbitant rates of interest on housing loans is multi-occupation. In Birmingham, more than half the multi-occupied properties were owned or lived in by immigrants. In Bedford, about 40 per cent of the immigrant community shared homes even though mortgages have been readily available for smaller houses and the financial pres-

ures found elsewhere reduced. This means that the single Pakistani lives at an extremely cheaply. Apparently £1 a person a week, inclusive of electricity, lighting, laundry, cooking, and heating, has been considered the figure by such lodgers 10 years, and they refuse to pay more.

Bradford, which also has a large number of Pakistanis, has a peculiar problem with a prevalence of all-male households, sometimes with schoolboys in residence. "We were struck by the social and educational implications," the report says, and suggests that local councils should take action they can.

The committee thinks could should quickly find out the extent of multi-occupation in their areas and ease the conditions by forbidding the arrival of new tenants when rooms are vacated. This would prevent people from actually being turned out into the streets.

Discrimination was another subject investigated by the committee — a difficult one because its illegality made evidence hard to find. The report says that the public sector is concerned with the fact that not only against immigrants "the chief criterion for housing should be need." It states that although it agrees some age groups may have the right to families living local for a fixed period, it suggests councils generally should not whether a residential qualification is really necessary.

Prejudice

The committee did find discrimination in the private sector, especially when colour people try to buy or rent homes in good suburban districts.

Resistance to newcomers is derived from social and financial reasons quite as much as from racial and/or colour prejudice the report says. "A fall value often occurs because owners fear it and sell at a price disadvantageous to the salver, thus causing the value to fall further."

Better communications obviously crucial in any campaign to ensure immigrant fair housing deal. The language barrier makes the problem worse.

The committee suggests that the Government should set up a group on the problems of communication.

The second general receives special attention because of the committee's conviction that the next decision will be crucial in race relations. Children in areas of multi-occupied and overcrowded housing can suffer damage to their health," the report says. "There are few but hardly lesser per in the social and educational handicaps they will suffer."

One figure shows the number of coloured children in care rises from 9.9 per cent in 1964 to 34.3 per cent in 1968, an increase which cannot just be accounted for by the transfer of some West Indian families from the residential areas as a status symbol, rather than a boarding school.

The report concludes that give disproportionate sources to immigrants, he misguided. "The truth is that many of the things we most urgently need doing in places we have seen we benefit indigenous and immigrant populations alike."

Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration. Housing, Slavery, and Volume one, Report, Price £1.00. Volume two and three: Evidence, documents, and index £2.60 each.

Leader comment, page 12.

Secondary classes halted by French teachers' strike

From our Correspondent: Paris, September 15

There were no classes at most secondary schools in Paris, Lyons, Lille, and other chief towns of France today because of a teachers' strike. It was the first day of the new school year. "The teachers' unions claimed that 75 to 80 per cent of staff

had stayed away, but the Ministry of Education put the figure at 40 per cent. At least 100,000 children have varied widely throughout the country, from about 10 per cent to 90 per cent.

Most of France's 3,800,000 secondary school children who went to school this morning, were enrolled and given their timetables and then told to go home. As Thursday is a weekly holiday, classes will not resume until Friday when the teachers are expected to return.

Eight trade unions representing almost all the 200,000 secondary teachers, had ordered a 24-hour strike, in protest against "the disturbing degradation in working conditions and the reduction of holidays." They complained that the Education Minister, Olivier Guichard, had refused to listen to their complaints.

Mr Guichard said the strike was unjustified, as the teachers' unions were already represented on the education councils, and had every opportunity of being heard.

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Yevtushenko for the United States

From DUSKO DODER: Washington, September 15

SOVIET authorities have agreed to allow Yevgeny Yevtushenko to visit the United States in the new year. Embassy officials in Washington confirm that the controversial poet will visit the United States as a guest of Doubleday Company, his American publisher.

The visit was originally scheduled for October, when a new book of Yevtushenko's poems entitled "Stolen Apples" is to be published. A spokesman for Doubleday said the trip was postponed for unspecified reasons until January.

Yevtushenko, whose trips to the United States in 1963

and 1966 made him popular with college audiences, is one of the most compelling representatives of the Soviet liberal intelligentsia. His foreign travel was restricted after he had criticised the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia and opposed the expulsion of the Nobel prize-winning novelist Alexander Solzhenitsyn from the Soviet Writers' Union in 1969.

Doubleday officials said they were arranging a lecture tour for Yevtushenko, who is expected to stay in the United States for about 45 days. He toured Latin America this summer. — Washington Post.

PERSONAL

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HOME NEWS

Class and the ghetto

By our own Reporter

Anthony Crosland, MP, in a Fabian tract published yesterday that the centres of class and race are threatened by being turned into one-class ghettos unless local authorities assume a wider responsibility for housing new social groups as professional and white-collar workers.

The committee also believes that the argument's "fair rents" can only give another "spiral" in the wage-price spiral. It will have an effect on wage claims going for a year and council tenants' rent. The policy will be "inflationary" and it is in dispute that "fair rents" on an average be twice as high as present rents.

He suggested that a new centre for Labour Party research might be able to tap resources such as foundations and trusts which at present were not available to the party's research department at Transport House.

He also suggested that the centre should be controlled by and responsible to the Labour Party, and could be headed by one of the younger Labour MPs. It would be important for the centre to maintain close links with the universities.

Mr Crosland, who was speaking at a press conference to launch his new Fabian pamphlet on housing, identified five specific areas which needed re-examining — economic growth; poverty and low incomes; the linked issues of equality, taxation, and public expenditure; urban problems; and State intervention in private industry.

"It is time the party woke up to the serious situation and got down to preparing for a new Labour Government. We have to ask ourselves why we did not do more in office: why we did not retain the confidence of the electorate; and how we can do better next time."

Mr Crosland says that the demand for housing for smaller families — for young married couples, the elderly, students, single workers — will fall sharply on the local authority sector.

In spite of these new tenants in widely varying incomes, there will still be a case for an indiscriminate government subsidy to all council tenants. The State provided an indiscriminate subsidy to the owner-occupier — an indiscriminate subsidy to council tenants would maintain equity between the two sectors.

Mr Crosland calls for a higher portion of the gross national product to be devoted to housing, and suggests new metropolitan housing agencies for London and the six new metropolitan counties, which would frame the overall responsibility for housing strategy.

Towards a Labour Housing Strategy. Fabian Tract 410, The Fabian Society, 11 Dartmouth Street, London, SW1H 9BN, price 20p.

Youths pelted footballers

Two teenage youths who, a magistrate said, could have been a goalkeeper were sent to detention centres for three months when they appeared on the streets at Tottenham yesterday. The boys, aged 15 and 16, were accused of posing offensive weapons after they had been seen catcalling at Tottenham Hotspur-Newcastle match at White Hart Lane, on August 18. The Newcastle goalkeeper was hit by a stone.

Sesame St makes inroads

By our own Reporter

ITV, which has been toying with the idea of showing the programme since the BBC rejected it some time ago, has already conducted one trial run in the HTV area. Although the experiment brought favourable response, ITV felt it needed more conclusive evidence before going ahead with a net-worked daily showing. To provide this evidence it will monitor the 13 episodes about to be shown on LWT, and the further 15 to be shown by HTV in December.

Cooke's look at US

A history of America, a history of the British Empire, and a history of scientific ideas are three of the major series to be screened by BBC-TV.

Alistair Cooke's 13-part history of America is to be shown on BBC-2 next autumn. Mr Aubrey Singer, head of the BBC-TV features group, promised yesterday that it would be a major television event.

He said the five parts completed so far were "urbane, brilliant, witty, and controversial."

The BBC's mammoth "History of the British Empire," which has been filmed in 25 countries and has taken three years to prepare, is to be screened early next year. In "The Ascent of Man," Dr Jacob

Crosland calls for Labour rethinking

By MALCOLM DEAN

Mr Anthony Crosland, a Minister in the last Labour Government, claimed yesterday that his party was totally unprepared for another general election.

"No one can say the party is in sight of formulating a better set of policies than we had in June, 1970—when we were dismissed from office," he said. Mr Crosland, who in the 1950s prompted intense debate within the party with the publication of his book "The Future of Socialism," called for a rigorous re-examination of the party's policies.

He suggested that a new centre for Labour Party research might be able to tap resources such as foundations and trusts which at present were not available to the party's research department at Transport House.

He also suggested that the centre should be controlled by and responsible to the Labour Party, and could be headed by one of the younger Labour MPs. It would be important for the centre to maintain close links with the universities.

Mr Crosland, who was speaking at a press conference to launch his new Fabian pamphlet on housing, identified five specific areas which needed re-examining — economic growth; poverty and low incomes; the linked issues of equality, taxation, and public expenditure; urban problems; and State intervention in private industry.

"It is time the party woke up to the serious situation and got down to preparing for a new Labour Government. We have to ask ourselves why we did not do more in office: why we did not retain the confidence of the electorate; and how we can do better next time."

Jenkins calls for tolerance

Mr Roy Jenkins last night appealed for "mutual tolerance" within the Labour Party over Common Market entry. He was as strongly convinced as ever that Britain should join, but appreciated that others were not, he said in Sheffield.

"But they must understand that I and many others in the Labour Party cannot deny a conviction we held for 10 years or more. Only on that basis could they effectively fight the Government on many other issues."

"I want to get rid of this Government at the earliest practical moment," Mr Jenkins said. "But I am equally determined the next Labour Government should not have to operate within the same constraints which beset the last one."

The basic issue was not Conservative terms for entry, but a better framework of opportunity for the next Labour Government. "We started the negotiations, and even if we believe we could have got better terms, this is short-term stuff," he said.

Neither did it make sense to drop the application now and try again in a few years. Most people wanted a decision now. It had fallen to a Conservative Government to complete the work Labour had started.

School heads warned

A man with a record of sex offences against children was given the job of caretaker at an infants school in Hertfordshire at a time when there was "a serious shortage of applicants," it was stated yesterday. Now school governors and headmasters are being asked to investigate thoroughly the background of all future applicants for school jobs.

Alderman Anthony Sheridan, chairman of the Hertfordshire education committee, said yesterday: "The headmaster took at the time what he felt to be appropriate measures to secure an appointment in the face of a serious shortage of applicants. It is a matter of the greatest misfortune and regret that the information received at the time gave no indication of a very relevant part of the applicant's previous history."

"The situation has been very carefully reviewed as a matter of urgency by me in consultation with senior members of the county education committee in the light of this incident. In all the circumstances, it was decided that no change in the procedures or administrative arrangements generally applicable was necessary, but that governors and heads of schools should be alerted and reminded of the invariable need for adequate investigation into a suitability of all candidates before appointment to the staff of schools."

What on earth can George Brandon have in common with Lavinia Hargreaves?

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Here's another thing. They are both using their Nationwide Share Accounts to set aside money to pay their surtax having found, like many surtax payers, that this is a better way of saving than the other methods available.

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Prince Charles, the new recruit to the Navy, arrived at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, yesterday to begin a six-week graduate course before joining the missile destroyer, Norfolk.

After completing the course, during which he will learn the duties of a second officer of the watch at sea, and assistant officer of the day in the college's Blake division, he will study for his certificate of competence during nine months with Norfolk.

He will be paid £140 a day, less £1 for mess and accommodation. A naval spokesman said that after yesterday, he would be treated "as normally as possible."

Non-stop pop shop

By OLIVER PRITCHETT

OSIRISA, Wishbone Ash, Van Der Graaf Generator, Tarkus, Sticky Fingers, and Tom and Jerry. These are some of the favourite things of the readers of "Melody Maker."

The thesis has not yet been written to explain why the solemn disciples of rock should care for cat and mouse games, but "Tom and Jerry" came fifth in the magazine's poll for the most popular television show.

The awards were announced in London yesterday at the Waldorf Hotel. Groups and fringe-groups, arrangers and bangers-on, girl friends and businessmen assembled for the occasion, then got so involved in talking pop shop that they almost missed the presentation of the prizes— heavy ashtrays made of rock in pastel shades.

Karl Stewart was top British male singer, and Sandy Denny top female.

The presentation of the awards was supervised by a hardworking man with a ginger beard, a ring in his left ear, a bell on his left ankle, white gym shoes, a black vest, and calf-length trousers who turned out to be Viv Stanshall of the Bonzo Dog band—but was nevertheless ignored.

"Get all these bums clapping," he pleaded as he presented the award to Rod Stewart. It was no good. Perhaps, after all, it is true that pop people don't much care about awards. Perhaps, after all, Mr Stanshall should have taken a tip from Tom and Jerry and thrown a heavy pastelslated ashtray at somebody's head.

CS gas gets clean bill of health

CS gas was yesterday given a clean bill of health for use in riot situations by a committee of doctors and scientists. They said it was only under exceptional circumstances that excessive doses of the gas could be received that might cause serious injury or death.

The committee is reporting that the medical assessment should be extended to all available knowledge on the actions of the gas so that Parliament and the public are in a position to take an informed decision on whether it should continue to be used.

The committee says that the dose of CS gas that might be fatal is at least several times that which produces intolerable symptoms. There is no evidence that the young or elderly are especially susceptible, nor that it affects pregnancy or leads to congenital abnormalities.

The claim that it can produce cyanide in the body, leading to brain damage, is irrelevant "as these effects could arise only if it was injected into the bloodstream."

The report says there are no experimental indications that long-term effects like cancer might develop, "but a more definite assessment of the risks, if any, of this occurring must await the completion of survival experiments on animals still in progress."

The possibility must be accepted that inhaling CS gas may be followed by "an acute exacerbation" in some — but not all — patients with chronic bronchitis, or precipitate an asthmatic attack.

A rise in blood pressure caused by the gas might have ill effects in people with high blood pressure or arterial diseases, but there were no instances of this. Apart from these possible exceptions, there was no evidence of the gas having adverse effects on other illicoses.

The committee began its investigation after it had reported on its inquiry into the use of CS gas in Londonderry during a serious rioting on August 13 and 14, 1969. It concluded there was no illicoses.



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Alistair MacLean

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Mr MacLean is back in the location he writes about best. THE TIMES £1.50

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Pierre Salinger

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THE STATE OF FICTION:

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SEYMOUR KRIME, turning his back on the 'one bright book,' explains his reputation as

An enemy of the novel

FOR A MAN who has loved all kinds of prose-writing for as long as he can remember, I find myself in the strange rôle of villain at the age of 49. Literary villain, I should say. People regard me as an enemy of the novel as a viable art form for this time and place. In order to sleep better tonight, I feel I should explain what brought all of this about and what I really feel.

I was raised on fiction, the US realistic and neo-realistic novel in particular. It gave me my strongest sense of reality and was eager to live my life, through words, under its banner. But somewhere along the line, in approximately 1955, it seemed to me that the truth of the realistic novel was leaking out of the vessel of the form. It had originally been created to get closer to experience, especially the unpleasant kind that was covered over by advertising: established religion; all the middle-class forces for optimism at the expense of the true human condition. But I began to notice that the once-held novelists themselves, the ones I most admired, were disguising basic truths in their work instead of setting nearer to the actual.

Using an autobiographical base, they changed their own names and that of their real-life models in order to skirt libel laws; avoid embarrassing themselves and their friends. I play the good old novel game. But I didn't want literature to be a sport. I wanted it to be a flame.

For it to burn, I felt, you had to take chances. You had no choice but to expose yourself; write about the living people you knew; extend the boundaries of realistic reality in a book. It was my belief that when any art form becomes "easy", acceptable, formulaic, it loses interest and life. Surely this was happening to the post-realistic novel. I thought, and even more so, I thought, that it seemed that it was happening to prose literature itself. The media was taking the play away from the written word and if we didn't do something drastic books themselves were going to end up as harmless objects of pretentiousness as this may sound it was to re-energise literature as well as to try and strike out into new territory that made me throw away the mask in my first book, 'Views of a Near-sighted Cannibal'.

Instead of using the post-realistic novelist's disguises—changes of name; physical characteristics; a more-or-less tidy plot—I wrote under my own scarred signature; named names; gave clinical specimens of blood and sperm; would actually have sown hunks of soiled underwear and finger-nail parings into the book itself if I could have.

Into real life

My intention, even though the performance was far from perfect, was an extension of the realistic novel to the only direction it could logically go into real, quotidian, actual, scary life itself. No one could read my work from a formal or aesthetic point of view—and only react to it as successful or unsuccessful art: the reader had to take a stand in relationship to my words.

These words were meant to restore danger to writing, and I don't mean that in a reckless sense. I wanted prose art to carry the weight of action with it. I wanted it to be a wedge into society itself. I had always believed in the highest purposes of literature, at least as I conceived it, and I was damned if I'd contribute to its decline or the indifference with which even intelligent people took it by coming out with a book that was only a book.

In America especially, powerful individuals who got things done paid lip-service to "culture" but hought and sold most conventional artists as if they were as many antique chairs. As a writer in a pragmatic society I wanted to hit the pragmatists where they lived: bring about tangible change if I could by putting my life and language on the crucial line: show the practical people who run my country that art is a terrible weapon.

This kind of raw assault on the daily reality that surrounds us was necessary to any self-respect I had as a writer. Please keep in mind that I come from a country that flatters the writer as a person of cultural status and flaunts him on television but in the long run regards him as no different from the latest pop star or athlete or movie jerk.

I wanted none of this. Literature always seemed sacred to me, having a sacred

and transcendent purpose, and even though I've sold that white ideal many times just by the sweat and ooze of living in a competitive show-biz kind of world it was this sense of special mission that seemed to me the No. 1 premise if you were going to call yourself a writer.

My vision of a literature of action, one where the words are handed laid on the reader and the writer literally reaches out to his partners in an early Christian-type pact, has been called by good critics incredibly romantic. I think I agree, oddly enough. But what's wrong with that? The need that has always driven me into this kind of intimate communication is much more valid for the making of literature in my time than yet another meaningless fiction.

And by saying this I don't mean to put down fiction for those who get great satisfaction out of either the reading or the writing of it. I speak for myself first and for those like me who find they don't have the looser time or psychic energy to bother with the old-fashioned novel when it seems irrelevant to the spot they're on as highly pressured self-concerned survivors in a very frighthearted world.

I want to speak directly to them, move them actually create through my language an "alternate society" within the context of a given piece. My work is meant to be personal, political, critical, journalistic, evangelistic—all at the same time. But to do it I would bring everything I have learned from fiction. It is first of all a story, or should be, and it is not about something but at its best the thing itself.

Wolfe, Mailer I think the best of the so-called New Journalism in the States shares some of these qualities. I saw it in G. L. Folsom, Tom Wolfe, Breslin, Mailer, etc.—but I put a twist in it. In attitude, because I also want to use such pieces as a stage on which to act out the scope of my concerns. By that I simply mean that I want to make a deep impact on my American readers in almost every avenue of the mutual life we're all struggling through today.

It's all very well and probably true, as purist critics would say, that such an attitude is that I am doing nothing more I have to fight against the howling noises of the media the mesa chaos, breakdown of life in my society, and try and fulfil the best that is in me.

So my work gives me a chance to much all the bases in the form I've devised for myself, and even though I'm aware it is impure by classical standards, it is something of a necessity for an American of my time to try and make a multi-faceted statement out of literature in this way.

Theories of art break down before the facts: and the facts of my culture, my impossible position as a would-be epic writer in a land that doesn't give a damn for literary values unless you convert them into tangible steel, demands that I shape my art in the way I've been speaking of. We have to have our hands in America even though the enemy changes from day to day and that's why, in all sincerity, the odour of gunpowder smells through my work even when we'd prefer gentle scents.

As for the novel, which was the starting point of all this, what can I say that isn't implied all the way through this statement of aims and needs? If you come from a more settled culture, one that doesn't suffer mental earthquakes every day, perhaps the imaginative coherence of fiction still gives order to people's psychic lives and perhaps it still has a place.

But in the air-conditioned nightmare back home its wallop has been superseded by film, television, video cassettes coming up all the electronic monsters that will soon be turning out audio-visual stories that for sheer graphic power will make your Conrads and Flauberts seem like museum pieces.

In other words, literary artists as supreme as those two devoted souls were in their time must turn elsewhere, in my book, turn where they're needed, and that to me right now is into our disintegrating society where they shall plant the staff of groovy righteousness and justice for all to see and act accordingly.

How to keep on publishing it

IT ALL DEPENDS, of course, on what you mean by "keep on publishing." Suzanne and Marie Puz may be wasting the typesetters' time with a form which amounts to a piece of ancient history, but Jacqueline Suzanne and Marie Puz and their publishers and their bank managers would be a hard team to convince that there is no life left in the product.

And there are dozens of free-form salutes, monthly, from the avant garde literary press which are very much alive in terms of ideas, but don't have a hope in hell of selling more than a thousand copies to devotees. Most publishers, therefore, preface any remarks about a dependable specific with a reassurance that the patient may not be able to stay alive.

Secker and Warburg publish less than 100 titles a year, of which less than half is fiction. Their fiction list makes money overall, but the balance is achieved by a delicate blend of half a dozen sure-fire sellers and a larger number of worthy, non-highrow longshots. According to Secker's David Farrar something like the latest Michener novel will cover ten times the losses on a speculative first novel or scholarly translation. A conscious policy of subsidy operates in favour of writers who have talent but little commercial merit.

And he believes in picking out the potential long-term professionals from the general welter, and making them feel at home with the firm. "These real novelists should be paid far more," he says. "They should be engaged, given higher advances and should be made to feel that an editor is really trying to help them with their careers. They should be made to feel that the firm is of course much easier to do small publishing house like ours."

(This line of benevolent patronage might not run to a monthly pay-check, Farrar thinks, although Secker have used this approach, notably, and successfully, with Angus Wilson. Generally however, there's a danger that a writer will have nothing to gain on publication, after which the deficit has been deducted from royalties.)

Finally, the novel might be bucked-up by a crowd-puller

The translators

by MICHAEL GLENNY

TRANSLATION in Britain is a depressed industry, compared with the situation in other countries. The most recent Unesco statistics (for 1969) show that the United Kingdom, with 780 translated books published in a year, has one of the lowest figures of all the developed countries; Slovakia, for instance, publishes more translations than the UK. Of that total less than a third (260 titles) is what Unesco calls "literature," i.e. fiction, whereas a half of the far greater translated output in both Sweden and Holland is fiction.

In relative terms, that is to say in ratio to the annual gross number of titles published, Britain comes even lower down in the international league table. The country which translates the most books into English is the United States of America, publishing slightly over 2,000. Yet that figure looks less imposing when compared with Spain, which publishes almost exactly as many translated books as Britain and the US put together.

From what they reveal of the direction of flow of translation, British figures are eloquent witness to the worldwide importance of English as a cultural medium. Thanks to Britain's colonial past and to America's present economic and political strength, English has become a global influence that is out of all proportion to the number of people who speak it as their mother tongue. One of the consequences of this seems to be much greater flow of translation from English than into it.

With advice from a panel of

JOHN HALL talks to some of the people who are keeping the novel alive

pickings from the avant garde.

But their main aim is still to change society through the word. "I like robust literature, usually with a political or social idea," says Miss Boyars, pointing out that "Last Exit" served a social function in Brooklyn. "I'm interested in new frontiers, both of ideas and form, but there's no reason to suppose that the narrative style should not also survive. I don't agree with Robbe-Grillet when he says we can't write in the manner of Balzac any more. Solzhenitsyn writes that way, and his novels are far from dead."

Working out on a more practical frontier, Calder and Boyars have started producing prose by litho printing, which they already have used for the sixty-odd volumes of their play-script series. Setting is done by an IBM electric machine at a fraction of the cost of hot-metal setting, and at the expense of justified lines, you can turn out a hardback at £1.50, which would otherwise have sold at £2.25.

The bright young things of the London publishing scene, Clive Allison and Margaret Busby, offer a suitably radical physics for the novel. Books, they say, are manufactured as middle-class objects at prices which even the middle class can scarcely afford.

Produce, review, and retail new books in soft covers and you have novels for the people, and pickings for stars and authors. The catch is The System. Literary editors, they say, don't give paperbacks the big review treatment, and retailers don't give shop-front displays to books that haven't been heralded by the media. Busby would love to go it alone, but prefer to carry on eating. However, they are planning to produce a series of cheaper novels by tightly costed short

prints of virtually all the self-outs, and without turning book-shops into bingo halls they would like to see the on sale alongside other phenomena that appeal to young people—like science fiction and films. How best to serve the course of true literature? "If people could write better novels it would be a pity not to have a publisher's gentleman publishing."

It doesn't come as a wild surprise to learn that William Miller of Panther paperbacks harbours similar views about the hardback-paperback set-up. It would be in the best interests of the novel and the novel-reading public if there were only two people feeding off each work instead of four or five. "Eliminate the hardback publisher and the author's agent, and you have a co-operative of a writer to the writer's cooperative to be of the safe side" splitting down the middle with the paperback man. But alas, the System won't allow it.

In fact, Panther have already published a handful of free novels, and they find that they are frequently being taken into consideration in the early stage of negotiations between authors and hardback publishers. In some cases a hardback publisher won't accept a novel until the paperback rights are guaranteed. "It's a matter of what the paperback firm says goes to the first publisher, and in many cases paperback rights make the difference between a loss and a profit for the hardback firm."

Is he, therefore, really an essayist? Miller suggests the arrival of the mandarin novel after all those gutsy going on with angry Northern young men in the sixties and late fifties. "When the novel is on the street it is dead," Highgate hasn't done it at all, he suggests.

The answer then appears to be a publisher who cares for the artist like a mother, enters his little printed novels into literary contests, sends them to literary editors who are prepared to give serious consideration to paperbacks, and distributes them to booksellers, who are not suffering from frustrated ambition to run a antique shop or a gentlemen's club. In short, a new system.

Eyre & Spottiswoode

Bernice Rubens Sunday Best

By the 1970 Booker Prize winner, Mrs. Rubens has a background to explore the strange world of George Verney Smith, a schoolmaster who claims: "I am neither war nor woman, and what's more I'm a murderer."

Walker Percy Love in the Ruins

It is the end of the Aeneas. Vines sprout in Manhattan, wolves roam in Cleveland; Black has turned against White, liberal against conservative. On the best-seller lists in USA... "The most intense intelligent put-downs of modern days have... At his best, Mr. Percy can make abstract ideas sing..." Francis Hopps, Observer £2.95

Richard Jones The Tower is Everywhere

Part of the score lies in the past of the careful background and the minor characters. Guardian £2.10

Edward R. F. Sheehan The Governor

"A solid, richly plotted story. Francis King, Sunday Telegraph £2.95

Richard Akerman The Charlestown Scheme

Set in the Caribbean, this conflict novel vividly portrays the conflict between a British archaeologist and a local politician. "Most good pleasures..." Anthony Wright, Spectator £2.95

Sid Chaplin The Mines of Alabaster

Coming in November

The book everyone is talking about. André Launay's THE GIRL WITH A PEPPER TASTE £1.50

حكايا من القليل

مكتبة النهر

BOOKS OF THE DAY

A man of influence

by JOHN VALZEY

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF AN ECONOMIST, by Lord Robbins (Macmillan, £4.50).

THERE ARE at least two Lionel Robbinses. One is the devoted and loyal teacher and sensitive lover of the arts and ideas, director of Covent Garden, the National Gallery, and practically every other national institution on the number 11 bus route except St Paul's. The other is the admirer of businessmen and their governments, the devotee of free markets.

Lord Robbins' strengths are his energy, his feminine sensibility, his deep ambition, and his deep ambition. But he has, it seems from this book, an ambiguity in the face of authority. In principle he respects power and loves freedom; in fact, he is deeply attracted by it, and wants to roll over, spaniel-like, and be tickled by meo inferior to him in wit, wisdom, learning, and cultivation.

I have never met Lionel Robbins, though I have often seen him in his box at Covent Garden, and I saw him give evidence, patronising in character, and not successful in the context of Lord Robbins' Commission on Oxford, a university he spent an unhappy time in and never understood. Bowra was memorably on him.

His own report, now much

condemned, was right about expansion, though he allowed himself to be misled on teacher training, and his team, to whom he was passionately loyal, might have done more.

His book is deeply fascinating. My reaction to it is ambiguous because he is himself an ambiguous figure. Take, for example, the explanation that he gives of his fight with Keynes over reduction to the slump. The Bad Robbins was totally wrong, and wrote a silly book, but the Good Robbins admits it. "The Great Depression which I subsequently wrote, partly in justification of this attitude, is something which I would willingly see forgotten."

In the parts that I know about he is perceptive and accurate. I am thinking, especially, of his account of Dennis Robertson, whose own falling out with Keynes was so spectacular that he actually left Trinity for Audley End, which was like a limpet taking wing. But there is something lacking in Robbins' affectionate picture of Robertson: it misses the bleak inner life, and the social tone seems to me ever so subtly wrong—ever so subtly wrong—needs spelling out.

Two men of similar proclivities, both from Eton, fell out over the greatest intellectual issue of the century in the



Lord Robbins: ambivalent

Old Grey Mare," while the Master had pneumonia.

Lord Robbins' career is made deeply by loyalty, especially to LSE, and to the arts. This has been accompanied by some serious errors, not necessarily intellectual in origin, of which the diagnosis of the depression is perhaps the most grave, and also by a curious lack of judgment in one whose reputation rests above all on the possession of just this quality. But perhaps loyalty, in people given to the use of the word judgment, does indicate a kind of judiciousness.

It is clear that he made a great contribution to London University. It is certain that he made and kept many loyal friends. He is a man of great influence, and of the influence that comes from passionate sympathies and antipathies. As a scholar who has done distinguished work, he will, of course, be remembered in footnotes. In the arts he has a more permanent memorial, as a man of influence and not a creator.

Perhaps the oddest feature of this necessarily self-revelatory work is that its language is at times poor. Metaphors jar: clichés thud when he tries to be significant; though the felicitous (especially on one well-regarded economist) are Butlerian. Not a bad parallel, both negatively and positively.

To be a writer

by P. J. KAVANAGH

THE TIGER AND THE ROSE, by Vernon Scannell (Hamish Hamilton, £2.25).

SELECTED POEMS, by Vernon Scannell (Allison & Busby, £1.25; paperback 75p).

W. H. AUDEN has insisted

that poets should never write autobiographies and fortunately the poet Vernon Scannell, after a hesitation, has taken no notice. He also has the good idea of interspersing his poems with a collection of his letters. Then, with glimpses of his life, he writes the book, so you are made aware of the

carefulness of the man doubtfully turning his life over in his hands. The interesting, quite apart from the interest of his expression of it, is that of soldier, deserter, professional boxer, prep schoolmaster (the masters are discussing whether a particular boy has courage or not; they think "Yes, 'Ah! but' says the Major, 'could he face cold steel?').

That's a story, but The Tiger and the Rose is not, unlike many autobiographies, a collection of them. There are, I think, God, no colourless, unmemorable, and even put down the air of having chosen itself, as the

subjects of good poems choose themselves somewhere below consciousness, because art and essential. Four years of war, for example, is expressed (not compressed) in two experiences, and because the selection is right, this is enough.

There is very little war, very little childhood. It is mostly early struggles (early, middle, and late struggles for that matter) modestly, precisely put down. And here is another distinction of the book. Most accounts of the lives of writers have, around Chapter Nine, The Success, the uncertain chrysalis hatches into a household name. Here no such thing happens, the struggle continues, and for this reason it is a much more real description of what it is like to be a writer, to be on that odd breed who, in spite of discouragements outside and inside themselves, carry on trying to write, not for money or fame, though both would be acceptable, but simply because they must.

Towards the end of this gentle, entirely untrivial book there is an account, which could have been so dreadful, of the birth and death of a deformed child. If there was nothing else, this would prove

what a writer Vernon Scannell is. But he makes no claims for himself. Looking back he discerns only the hindings of his desire to be a poet. He accepts there may be many readers who would say he "hasn't a chance in a thousand years." I admit they may be perfectly right. It is beside the point which is that he has lived, and will continue to live, as though the possibility were real.

It is real, as his Selected Poems show. He does not belong to the load-carrying with-ore school; his poems are plain (not dull) with a clear heart, a clear story-line and are often rhymed. He has marvelous phrases, "marooned upon a small remote" and insights.

But on the whole he lacks the dazzle of MacNeice, of whom, oddly, he reminds me. As though to MacNeice's Cavalier he plays russet-coated Captain. But, like MacNeice, some of his poems stand up solid as pieces of furniture. The unusually good blurb complains that Mr Scannell has not received his deserved "acclaim." But why should poets want acclaim? They want readers. Try "Talking of Death," standing up in a bookshop, and see if you don't want to read more.



Graham Greene: war against boredom all his life

THE BATTLEFIELD

by William Trevor

A SORT OF LIFE, by Graham Greene (Bodley Head, £1.80).

YOU begin at the beginning and painstakingly record every detail. Or you can hang out, as it were, a flypaper and let memories cling to it as they come. "An autobiography," Mr Greene writes, "is only a sort of life—it may contain less errors of fact than a biography, but it is of a more selective nature: it begins later and it ends prematurely."

In his own story, he begins almost at the beginning—with a dead dog sharing his pram as the cadaver was conveyed from the road accident that claimed it to its resting place in the grounds of Berkhamsted School. He ends his story early, with the years of failure that followed the success of first novel. Failure too is death of a kind: the future sold, the drawers emptied, the removal van waiting like a hearse in the lane to take one to a less expensive destination.

Between the death of the dog and the other, the memories buzz briskly around the flypaper. Many that are captured are left to die also, for this is a short book and, as its author implies, an exceedingly selective one. As the distant past is probed, an incident imposed is that of dignity, more recent one, and though the pattern that results may appear to be haphazard, everything in fact is linked; every thread of thought runs evenly into an unidentified central junction. Is it Berkhamsted School where his father was headmaster, that lies at the heart of the matter? Or God? Or Russian roulette on Berkhamsted Common? In the end, all three seem inextricably to mingle there.

As a child, he played truant, lazily reading in his father's summer-house for days on end, until a master in subdued tones, inquired of his

father, if the boy's illness showed signs of abating. He stole "The Railway Magazine" from W. H. Smith's in Berkhamsted High Street. He hated the "ink-stained nibbled desks... a changing-room smelling of sweat and stale clothes, stone stairs, worn by generations of feet, leading to a dormitory divided by pitch-pine partitions that gave inadequate privacy—no moment of the night was free from a noise, a cough, a snore, a fart." He ran away to Berkhamsted Common, where he proposed to live off berries. After that, he was sent to be psycho-analysed.

For all his life Graham Greene has waged a war against boredom—a lonely battle, for few people offer sympathy to the bored, believing the affliction to be one that with an effort can be overcome. This is not so. To suffer from boredom is to suffer from a disease for which too often there is no cure. Novelists invent out of boredom as much as out of curiosity. Greene suggests, but few novelists play Russian roulette in order to keep it at bay, or allow a fear of it to drive them to a leap of faith in the Congo, to the Kikuyu reserve during the Mau-Mau insurrection, the emergency in Malaya and the French war in Vietnam.

Perhaps indeed it was this fear that drove him into the Catholic Church, for in a man's life the facts and the truth are often at variance. On paper it seems that he took his brother's revolver to Berkhamsted Common because of the hopelessness of his love for a governess who was engaged to a man in Cables and Wireless in the Azores. And on paper it seems that he became a Catholic because the girl he wanted to marry was a Catholic. But as always with Graham Greene, there was more to it than that.

A Sort of Life is no great canvas of the times, stretching through one world war to the brink of another. It's a quiet, steady, unassuming, and yet, in its tones, inquired of his

An inside-out and upside-down Utopia

NEW NOVELS reviewed by ROBERT NYE

ALAN SILLITOE has always been a more awkwardly unclassifiable writer than the popular critical opinion would like him to be. The excellence of his ability in a particular direction, not in question—"Saturday Night and Sunday Morning" and "The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner" may now be seen to be wholehearted attempts to create genuine working-class novel or story from the inside. Those books have their flaws but they retain the freshness conferred upon them by sincerity where the efforts of many of Sillitoe's contemporaries begin to look faded or flashy.

Yet all the time, right from the start, there have been other and odder things going on in Sillitoe's mind. The savage emotional under-world glimpsed in his poems, the spark of pure bloody-mindedness celebrated in some of the shorter stories, the attempt to create a kind of "The Ragman's Daughter," occasional touches of a fame which is not exactly political or literary, more the expression of a kind of creative irritability which identifies poems or story with an energy for which there is no other outlet in organised society. It is this irritability which informs and even provides the subject for his new novel, Travels in Nihilon.

Nihilon is an inside-out and upside-down Utopia, a People's Capitalist Republic, very like Britain as seen through the eyes of a naive immigrant who has fallen asleep in a shed at Dover on the way to be deported. It is perhaps even more like Britain as it might have been, a kind of hazy, half-remembered dream of a future dream by a pessimistic modernist like William Morris, "Erewhon" in reverse.

To present his nightmare, Sillitoe adopts the Batfist and most attractive of techniques—he sends five travellers into this imaginary country and describes their various misadventures in the style of a wide-eyed commentator. The travellers are Adam, a poet, on a bicycle stuffed with money; Benjamin Smith, a specialist in military history; a Thunderbolt Estate Car; Edgar Salt, geographer, by sea; Jacqueline Sulfer, object of erotic attentions, by train; and Richard Love, intended for the diplomatic service, by means of the Nihilonian Airways—which are staffed by



ALAN SILLITOE, by Alan Sillitoe (W. H. Allen, £2.25).

TRAVELS IN NIHILON, by Alan Sillitoe (W. H. Allen, £2.25).

INTENSIVE CARE, by Janet Frame (W. H. Allen, £2.25).

ANGLE OF REPOSE, by Wallace Stegner (Heinemann, £2.25).

OUT OF SPACE AND TIME, by Clark Ashton Smith (Neville Spearman, £1.75).

LOST WORLDS, by Clark Ashton Smith (Neville Spearman, £1.75).

THE VERGE OF WRITING, I'm not sure. Perhaps it is too much of a perverse joke. His attitude to his Nihilon is interestingly complicated by ambivalence—the disapproval of it politically, but the satire is half-exhausted of the imaginative excesses it condemns. The book, indeed, would be a mess were the writing not so taut and well-controlled. It provides a fascinating extra dimension to the world of a real writer, perhaps that is the most one should say after a single reading.

The rest of the week's offerings divide themselves uneasily into two camps: on the one side, imagination, on the other Art with its capital A. hat on. The Art first, Janet Frame's Intensive Care is all that one expects a Janet Frame book to be: sensitive, poignant, admirable in its depiction of states of mind that border on the supernatural. It is also vitiated and for me ruined by overwriting. While Miss Frame stays in the knowable world of a first World War soldier, Tom Livingstone, and his gradual education in the exorcism of his own experiences, she plainly at the top of her form; but when the novel shifts to its other plane—the world of an autistic girl, living in a specific future, sitting under the eugenic exterminators to take her away—the prose is overburdened by a sense of the difficulty of what it is attempting, descends without much ado to the condition of bad verse, making the book hard to follow without at the same time convincing the

reader that his headache is really worthwhile. Wallace Stegner's Angle of Repose suffers from a comparable self-consciousness, only here the constraint imposed is that of dignity, which can be dull when pursued as rigorously as Lyman Ward, "Nemesis in a wheelchair," pursues it. Lyman, grandson of Susan and Oliver Ward, has a sweet tooth, the trouble with the stories, and an engineer, tries to set the story of his forebears into the perspective of American history following the Civil War, and into a modern perspective.

There are masterly evocations of the American West in these two remarkable books, though for my own money I prefer him doing this straightforwardly as in his earlier work for narrative at all. Still, "Wolf Willow" without the note of cosmic horror as well as the note of the genre, more hard-boiled, more than the present reviewer, will find plenty else to inflame their imaginations and give them the cosmic horrors.

The Organisation, by David Anthony (Crime Club, £1.40).—Long, elaborately plotted, sub-Charltonian tale of bluff, revenge, murder and pursuit across a Mafia-possessed California. The motivations are dotty but it is radiantly comic.

The Sinner Harvest, by William Hazard (Casell, £1.50).—Lunatic Arab lobby tries to screw incorruptible, megalomaniacal influential (and boring) backbencher in a socialist posture on eve of a day war. Bland, as always, but saved by diffusion of tension.

Dock briefs

by MATTHEW COADY

IN prewar Britain murder trials commanded an abnormal interest. The florid advocate, the figure in the dock, and above all—the gallows held the public in thrall.

Richard Gordon evokes this morbidity in The Medical Witness (Heinemann, £2.10). His central figure is a star in the legal peepshow, a pathologist whose word alone is almost sufficient to secure a guilty verdict for the Crown. He is also a monstrously arrogant human being who is ultimately destroyed by his sense of certainty.

There are no puzzles save those posed by the heart, but here is a crime novel to remind us that the law and its apparatus can be fallible. The characters are drawn with solid conviction, the trial scenes have an authentic ring, and the book offers a fascinating glimpse of the world of forensic medicine in the

context of a splendidly told tale. Asbes To Asbes, by Emma Laithen (Gollancz, £1.80).—Killer intervenes as parish-joint campaign to save Roman Catholic school from the dealer in down-town New York. Suspense limited but freshly written and effectively funny on home and its radicals.

Bear Island, by Alistair Maclean (Collins, £1.50).—Mass exodus of Arctic location. Ship's doctor plays death in book which attempts to combine whodunit with adventure story and falls (with a thud) between two schools.

The Organisation, by David Anthony (Crime Club, £1.40).—Long, elaborately plotted, sub-Charltonian tale of bluff, revenge, murder and pursuit across a Mafia-possessed California. The motivations are dotty but it is radiantly comic.

THORES A. MEDVEDEV The Medvedev Papers

"For the well-being of Soviet and world science, it is impossible to overrate the importance of this book." Alex Comfort, Guardian £4.95

RICHARD JONES The Tower is Everywhere "A rich and satisfying novel." Times Lit. Supp. £2.10

"Part of the pleasure lies in the detail of the Welsh background and the minor characters." Guardian £2.10

TERENCE WHEELER From Home in Heaven "His India is a solid experience... a powerful book." Guardian £2.10

"A beautifully written, strong and subtle book." Daily Telegraph £2.10 Macmillan

ANDRE LAUNAY WITH A PEPER TASTE

Hugo Cole.

Berg's Lulu

In the second Act perhaps partly as we tuned in to this production—the drama suddenly began to grip. In her moment of the first scene, Carole Meyer was able to pull out all the stops — yes, she was a real opera singer; and aren't the finest moments of Lulu real opera of the grandest sort? The interlude between the two scenes which Berg had hoped to show filmed was brilliantly handled by Michael Geliot; mimed under distracting flickering lights after the manner of old films so that detail was lost and our imagina-

PRINCE OF WALES

Philip Hope-Wallace

Big bad mouse

TELEVISION

Peter Fiddick

Telly modes

I AM SORRY not to be writing about "Black man's burden." Thames's week-long focus on aid to the Third World

review



Eric Sykes and Jacki Piper: Big Bad Mouse

money. And that the British Broadcasting Corporation is similarly debarred from offering its services—let alone paying for the privilege in this area. If Parliament were sitting, there should be questions in the House about "Fashion Awards 1971." As it is, we should hope to see those politicians who rush so readily to the

Governors to protect themselves, make similar moves now to protect the medium.

PROM CONCERT

Edward Greenfield

Arnold's Sixth

The first and most successful of the three movements provides a surprisingly effective alternative to conventional symphonic argument in its toccata like progress. It is tough and well shaped. The slow movement—a tribute to an unnamed pop star—is tough too, for Arnold resists the tempta-

Stephen Bishop was the admirable soloist in Beethoven's Third Piano Concerto, completing his personal cycle of Beethoven concerto performances at the Proms. While never undermining his characteristic thoughtfulness, the Proms always seem to draw from him an extra degree of extroversion, particularly when the conductor is Colin Davis. A strong performance that made a few concessions to mannered elegance, ending in a vivid account of the finale.

THEATRE UPSTAIRS

Nicholas de Jongh

Matura play

Tuesday's performance failed to match the gentle manner of the writing; so the evening showed a tendency to farce and caricature though Roland Rees's production ruined most of its admirably precise and attack; but in a whole whose satire is affectionate and pleasurable to listen to and watch the danger is of overperformance and the swamp of fine writing. Stefan Kalipha's Ram now strains too much for frantic mugging and clashes with the painstaking and splendid realism of Robert Coleby and Carole Hayman (hippies) and . Mona Hammond's plausible wife.

1 LIVERPOOL

Gerald Lerner

Shostakovich

John Shirley-Quirk's baritone solos were remarkable for their stamina, their linear truth, and their expressiveness unmistakable even in a language we did not understand. The "Alexander Nevsky" sounds sometimes required of the male chorus were beyond the colour resources of the Liverpool Philharmonic Choir, but they sang creditably nevertheless. And the RLEQ played superbly well.

Some of these notices appeared in yesterday's editions.

CARNAL KNOWLEDGE, SKIN DEEP new films reviewed by Derek Malcolm



Jack Nicholson, Arthur Garfunkel and Ann-Margret in "Carnal Knowledge"

Little Fauss and Big Halsy (Cinecinta 2 and 4, X) must have looked fresher when it was first made. The reason it has taken so long to get here is largely because "Love Story" has hocked Paramount's chief West End showcase and because the company's quarrel with the British circuits before that meant that, were it shown in London, there would have been too long a delay for the provinces. Far be it for me

It is not long before he uses them, and the first is ordinarily quick-breeding friends, to take revenge—first on his boss at a garden party and then, on his mother's death, in more deadly ways. I won't ruin the plot for you, but I can tell you that it is easier to identify with the rodents than with any of the humans on display. They are excellently trained by Moe Die Sesso in Daniel Mann's rather ridiculous horror movie, culleded from Stephen Vincent's novel *White Fangs*. I am led to believe that they have so taken audiences that a future film is planned starring Ben. Perhaps he will nibble Al McGraw to death and her 'preppie to death and get the best of both worlds.


Derek Malcolm will review **Blind Terror** and **A Gunfight** on Saturday.

Crunch up the crisps and check out.



But that really depends on whether you believe in the end, justifying the means. A point on which KlosterPrinz connoisseurs would be quick to give reassurance: it's well worth fighting for.

KlosterPrinz

 Other Princes worth fighting for are:
DomPrinz Niersteiner, HockPrinz Liebfraumilch and WeinPrinz
Moselle—all personally chosen by Franz Rehi.

LES INDIGÈNES ONT L'AIR AMICAL
TIENS TOI BIEN ET LAISSE MOI FAIRE

**CADOLLES
DISQUE BLEU**

**Coming all the way from France
is quite a fag.**

Gauloises tipped, 20 for 27½p.

Rich nations and poor

The poor countries of the world may be forgiven a wry smile at the frantic comings and goings of the Finance Ministers of the rich countries. Financial crises are nothing new to the poor nations; they are more a way of life. Even so, it is all too certain that the economic plight of the developing countries does not loom large in this week's discussions of the Group of Ten in London, nor will it at the International Monetary Fund meeting at the end of the month. But there can be no genuinely international solution to the present complex monetary, trade, and economic problems which does not cater for the developing nations.

Just how serious the plight of many poor countries has become was spotlighted by the report of the World Bank and the International Development Association this week. The amount of genuine development aid reaching the poor nations is slowing down. Rapid price inflation in the rich countries also devalues that aid because the poor cannot buy so much with it. In place of genuine governmental aid many poor countries are having to depend on high interest loans which increase their indebtedness. Already a country like India has to commit a fifth of its export earnings simply to repay interest on past loans. But unless the poor nations can increase their imports they will not be able to modernise or industrialise their own economies.

—and nature adds its toll

Nature has its own ways of contributing to man-induced poverty. In recent weeks some of the worst monsoons in years have hit Asia and the Far East. Cruelly, they appear to have afflicted North Vietnam, India, and East Pakistan hardest—as if these countries did not have enough problems as a result of military operations.

On the 26th anniversary of the founding of the North Vietnamese republic, the Prime Minister, Pham Van Dong, said the north of the country had "been affected by a very big flood, even bigger than that of 1945 which was a catastrophe." The floods and famine of that year are believed to have cost one million lives. Since then the Prime Minister has given an inkling of the horrors of these floods. He instructed his people to fight against disease, to protect houses and goods, and to "punish severely smugglers, thieves of public property, speculators, and hooligans." The floods came at the transplanting stage of the second rice crop of the year. They have smashed the dikes protecting the food-growing areas of the Red River delta and will disrupt industrial projects in the area. Some have said that, ironically, the damage is greater than that caused by American bombing. It has come when economic recovery from those operations was building up.

Ghettos in the making

Too many British cities are the enemies of those who live in them. At Scarborough yesterday the Liberals raised a shout of protest at conditions in the still-black Northern towns. Mr Lishman of Manchester reminded Liberals from the fortunate South that the houses in which many Northerners live—and the communities in which their houses stand—are not measurably pleasanter now than they were twenty years ago. Mr David Steel quoted (from a Birmingham Centre of Urban Studies Survey) some fearsome contemporary facts about Glasgow and Clydeside. Three thousand families, out of the 50,000 on the Glasgow waiting list for housing, have been living in hope for 15 years in dwellings without baths, showers, or hot water. And Mr Lishman said that in Burnley last year respiratory disease killed as many people as all types of cancer.

Squalor on this scale shortens life and degrades it. One result is unavoidable ill-health. Another can be resentment, alienation, and the sort of violence which now haunts the cities of America. The housing problem in cities ought to command the first concern of politicians if only because it ought to frighten them. It ought to frighten them because the worst areas are inhabited by the poor or the very poor. They live in squalor because they cannot afford not to. The environment to which poverty condemns them is a social ghetto, even if it is not a racial one.

This is one of the main findings of Mr Anthony Croxall's Fabian Pamphlet published yesterday ("Towards a Labour Housing Policy", Fabian Society, 20p) and it leads him to reject

Beyond that, their problems continue. What point is there in the poor countries industrialising if they are then denied access to the markets of the rich? The benefits of aid are too often cancelled when barriers are put up against the export products of the poor nations. This year Britain imposed a 15 per cent tariff on imports of cotton textiles from the Asian Commonwealth. And what arrangements will be made for these countries when Britain enters the Six? It is also a fair bet that the great debate, due to resume in the House of Commons next week, will be more concerned with the price of butter or the status of sterling than it will about ensuring that countries like India, Pakistan, and Ceylon are granted long term duty free access to the enlarged community for their agricultural and manufactured exports.

Of course the politicians reply that all these are matters for future negotiation. But will not the whole matter be quietly forgotten as soon as practicable? The same applies to the talk about international monetary reform. Such reform, if it is to be real, should lead to a much bigger distribution of financial reserves to the developing countries which are most in need. But will it? The economic concerns of the rich countries are, at present, dangerously parochial. That is why the debate about the future of world trade and finance cannot be left solely to the Finance Ministers and the bankers.

Humanitarian concern must prevail over other considerations.

In India and Pakistan, as in Vietnam, the monsoons are an annual event—but with important differences. The disasters are magnified by the overpopulation. They are given a further dimension by the nature of political discontent. On the human level the effects can be listed too easily. Bridges will be smashed, trucks stranded, and villages and refugee camps reduced to quagmires. Disease and death are the inevitable attendants of inhabitants weakened by malnutrition and hunger. Flooding may ensure that the race against famine in East Pakistan will be lost. The flood damage in the northern Indian provinces of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Orissa has been calculated at £220 millions. This is on top of the cost of the millions of refugees from East Bengal.

One of the Awami League's motives for gaining control in East Pakistan was to do more about the flood control which the Government in the West had ignored. The cyclone disaster of last year emphasised this. Political confusion has increased with the size of the human misfortunes. The two currents swirl round in a vortex as damaging and disheartening as the floods themselves.

as wishful thinking the Government's faith in the ability of free enterprise to solve the main housing problem.

"A free market," Mr Croxall says, "is wholly irrelevant to the most urgent problem since the homeless and overcrowded are generally poor people who could not conceivably afford the market price of decent housing. Similarly with slum clearance and replacement—working class families could not afford rents which would cover the economic cost of acquiring, demolishing, and rebuilding whole areas of substandard housing."

This is the centre of the problem. If, as the Birmingham survey suggests, 40 per cent of the heads of households in Glasgow had a take-home pay of less than £10 a week the Government's "fair rent" proposal for council housing will simply mock at Glasgow for being poor. The people who need rehousing most are those least able to afford either to move to a leafy suburb, still less to pay for their own rehousing in an expensive city centre where their work is needed. The rent rebate system, which involves a means test, ought to ensure that the urban poor do not get poorer. But it will not solve the housing problem. The very poor—many of whom are immigrants as yesterday's Select Committee report shows—will continue to concentrate in privately-owned urban slums because they cannot afford to move. These people ought to be rehoused first at rents they can afford. If a community pays a man less than £10 a week the community cannot expect an economic rent from him. But if he is forced to continue to live in a slum he will turn against the community. No society is just unless there is shelter as well as food.

A COUNTRY DIARY

NORFOLK: Sunrise over the fen on these autumn mornings brings transient splendour to a realm of dew-wet reeds and a lingering cloak of mist. Through a haze of rose which turns to gold, countless geometric webs of spiders bridge darkling gaps, glittering and opalescent. Spear-leaves and drooping purple reed-plumes are headed with silver and the pincushion umbels of angelica are pricked out with a million diamond points of light. Tassels of hemp agrimony and magenta spikes of loosestrife achieve a brightness and perfection which beautifies them, while white bellbells shine with the pale of fading stars through the morning vapours. There is a scent of water mint distilled from the night. The air is so still that even the gossamer does not tremble. The reed-warblers have gone; there is no chorus of chattering and husky music to greet the new day; but presently a wren trills, a woodpecker's "chipping" breaks the silence of the nearby woods and bullfinches utter plaintive whistles in the shallow bushes. A pheasant wakes in a sedge jungle roost and rises like a rocket, scattering the dew in its rude progress and raising a general alarm. The sun's warmth now begins to be felt. Soon bumble bees are at it; wasps begin their hunting and the first dragonfly wakes with a rustle and fret of wings. The mist and its magic have evaporated; the sparkling webs have dried to near invisibility and only the recesses of the lush undergrowth are still wet. The fen is set fair for a golden day as the peacock and brimstone hutterflies come swooping out to the flowers. E. A. ELLIS.

IT IS, on the face of it, difficult to see how Britain can grant independence to the Rhodesian Administration and retain some semblance of honouring either the spirit or the letter of the five principles she herself has laid down for a settlement.

Regardless of the tortuous semantics in which both sides are reported to be indulging, Mr Smith's basic position remains clear: he will not hedge from the principle of white government for the foreseeable future.

If no Anglo-Rhodesian accord is reached, the controversial "Property Owners (Residential Protection) Bill" will almost certainly be introduced soon. It will allow 15 unnamed whites to petition for the eviction of Asians and Coloureds (mixed blood) from white suburbs. It will probably result in the establishment of a race Classification Board, similar to the South African model.

Yet, in a "heads we win, tails you lose" principle, even if a settlement is reached, white pressure for the introduction of the Property Bill will probably only be postponed. Once the dust has settled, and normal international trade has been resumed, Rhodesia will be free to introduce whatever legislation, or constitutional amendments she wishes, and will risk only the censure, not the sanctions, of Britain and anyone else who still cares.

If Mr Smith resists the right-wing pressure, then his political life could be endangered. The Rhodesian electorate, which today shouts "good old Smithie," has in the recent past shouted burrahs for Sir Roy Welensky, Sir Edgar Whitehead, and Mr R. S. Garfield Todd, and turned them quickly to boos and catcalls. It could happen again and Mr Smith would be foolish not to bear this in mind.

The Rhodesian leader's first hint that his popularity may already have begun to wane came unexpectedly last month, at a by-election in the lower middle-class suburb of Mabelreign. Mr Smith was scheduled to address an eve of poll meeting, and anticipating a packed house, the Rhodesian Front organisers told Mabelreign voters to bring copies of the hy-election manifesto with them in order to ensure they were given seats. In the event, only 186 people turned up and Mr Smith addressed his first half-empty hall in more than eight years. Worse still, his candidate won by only 68 votes over an extreme right-wing opponent.

I understand the Rhodesian leader was shaken by the experience.

Still the talks must go on. Mr Smith's personal record is clean: he could have accepted the Tiger and Fearless settlements, and then when sanctions were lifted, torn them up and defied the world to do its worst. Indeed, there are many Rhodesians who wonder why he did not. So if this month Mr Smith gives his word that he



Lord Goodman, special envoy

Heads we win, tails you lose?

Anglo-Rhodesian settlement talks resume this week with officials of Mr Smith's administration optimistic that, this time, an agreement will be reached. PETER NIESEWAND examines the real prospects.

would abide by a settlement, it would be very difficult for Britain to call him a liar.

There's another aspect to this: a body of opinion in Whitehall believes that the five million African majority in Rhodesia cannot possibly lose. By simple overwhelming numbers, they must fairly soon form the Government of Rhodesia.

The only question is: what method will they use to win? Will it be violent revolution, or peaceful social change?

The answer lies in white hands: in the goodwill (or lack of it) with which the 249,000 Europeans deal with the thousands of black school leavers, in the speed with which they expand the economy to cope with the population explosion, and in the steps they take to improve race relations and encourage black dignity and self-respect.

According to this reasoning, if Mr Smith or his successors depart from the spirit of a settlement, they will merely be hammering nails into their own coffers.

In contrast to the optimism in Rhodesian official circles, I understand the British will arrive here this week in a cautious mood. When Lord Goodman and his team flew in last June, they were hopeful that the encouraging rate of progress would be maintained, and that a summit "between Mr

Smith and Sir Alec Douglas-Home would be organised speedily.

In the event, they found that Mr Smith had dug in his heels, and discussions went round in circles until neither side had anything further to say. Sooner than abandon the talks, it was decided to adjourn them to allow both sides to reconsider their positions.

Security had been good. The British team booked into a suburban hotel, the Quorn, and stayed there unnoticed. But only just: one Salisbury journalist dropped into the hotel for a beer one afternoon. He saw the head of the Rhodesian Special Branch sitting in the lounge, and went across to say hello. The SB man was, to say the least, surprised, but offered the journalist a beer. The journalist sold him two tickets to the Press Club dance, and left shortly afterwards—about half a minute before the unmistakable figure of Lord Goodman came down the stairs followed by Sir Philip and the rest of the team.

After Lord Goodman's second secret mission, he gave the British Government an optimistic report. Four of the five principles had been overcome: the differences had been narrowed down to principle number one: unimposed progress towards majority rule. Britain had proposed a new definition of "majority rule."

Clearly, Mr Smith would not accept "one man, one vote" but was interested in a non-racial meritocracy— "responsible majority rule, by civilised men."

The first indication that the way would not be as easy as they hoped came towards the end of June, when Sir Max Aitken, proprietor of the London "Daily Express," flew into Salisbury to visit "my old chum Ian Smith." Sir Max reported that Mr Smith had rejected a British proposal on African advancement, which Lord Goodman had left with him, and worse still, had no alternative suggestions to make.

Lord Goodman was due to arrive in Salisbury within two or three days, but Whitehall decided to postpone his departure while the position was reconsidered. A slightly revised plan was prepared and presented to the Rhodesians at the following week. At the time, it found little favour with the Rhodesians, as they considered it made the pace of African advancement unacceptably fast.

In broad terms, the plan was a two-stage constitution, which sought to create a non-racial meritocracy. Stage one maintained the present Rhodesian system of separate voters' rolls for black and white, and ended in racial parity in Parliament with 50 seats each. Stage two envisaged the creation of a common roll, and the formation of a government elected by the cream of black and white voters— "The civilised majority."

But the sticking point seemed insuperable: how soon would the races reach parity and enter stage two? Mr Smith wanted the rate of progress determined by the amount of income tax paid by Africans as a group, as in the case at present. The British insisted on the qualifications being determined by property, education, and income.

The gap between the sides was not narrowed in spite of more than a dozen meetings, and it became clear that, for the time, neither side had anything further to say.

Lord Goodman left disappointed, but believing Mr Smith would play his cards close to his chest until a summit was held.

However, Britain's Foreign Secretary, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, was insistent that he would not attend a summit until a settlement had been privately agreed, line by line, with Mr Smith. After a pause to allow this message to sink in in Salisbury, contacts were resumed by letter and a Rhodesian concession on African voting qualifications made it worthwhile resuming direct discussions.

Lord Goodman's task now is to make sure that both sides are speaking the same language, and to try to lay the final struts of the bridge between white supremacy and black rule.

Whether this can be done, and whether the bridge is paper maché or concrete and steel, remains to be seen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank heaven for Cole . . .

Sir,—In recent months the Guardian has been one of the few newspapers in which an Irishman could recognise the world in which he grew up, and now John Cole has given us an extended editorial which is outstandingly constructive because it does start from the real problem.

Those of us who came to political consciousness under Sir Basil Brooke's stalwart premiership (like our fathers before us) found a happy scene in whose analysis the English press and parties gave us very little help. Ulster made the news once a year, with its quaint folk-festival on July 12. We could see that the Unionist leaders included some of the worst racists to be found by politics west of Moscow, or east of Chicago or north of Dublin. Gerrymanndering was a

feature of the scene as were the IRA men picking off policemen from behind hedges.

Occasional visitors would arrive from overseas, as Mr Enoch Powell did last week, to sharpen up our sense of the differences between us, and our taciturn representatives at Westminster would fall totally silent when it came to any crisis near to home (as when they watched Mr Terence O'Neill bite the dust).

What is still lacking in most press coverage of this scene is any sense of how the British political parties have failed in their handling of Ulster over the past 25 years. The Conservative Party is the model for us all in how best to educate your backwoodsmen, but as luck would have it Suez and Central Africa were the educational priority areas. Ulstermen sup-

porting the policies of the British Labour Party have watched each leader in turn try with the solution which Mr Wilson now finds temptingly simple.

If you tell them they needn't march each July 12 to keep their British passports up to date, they will perhaps reply—tell that to the Kenyan Asians. Because the Guardian did not discover the Ulster problems the day before yesterday, the policies it now advances are credible. One of your correspondents was thanking God in these columns the other day for giving us Mr Paul Foot. Perhaps he might mention your deputy editor too when he's on the line.—Yours sincerely,

David Chambers,
London Graduate School
of Business Studies,
London NW 1.

. . . and heaven help Victor Zorza

Sir,—Victor Zorza's article on "Khrushchev's catastrophe" contains a number of nonsensical and misleading statements: 1. Kennedy's Vietnam policy had nothing to do with any "ambivalent" remark by Khrushchev. In fact, Kennedy inherited an obligation in South-east Asia which he felt compelled to honour. At the same time he steadfastly refused to commit American ground troops, and latterly made clear his intention to withdraw all advisers from South Vietnam by the end of 1965.

2. Zorza repeatedly refers to the pressure which Khrushchev was under from his military, without apparently considering that an American President might have found himself in a similar situation. Evidently Zorza has not read President

Eisenhower's farewell address in which he wrote: "In the councils of government we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence . . . by the military industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist."

If Zorza had read Robert Kennedy's "Thirteen Days," he would know that at the time of the Cuban missile crisis, the majority of top military brass favoured a Pearl Harbour-style attack on the Cuban bases, and that at least one favoured a nuclear strike.

The fact that Kennedy resisted these pressures and adopted the policy he did caused Khrushchev to lose face—according to Zorza!

3. Kennedy is further slated for insisting that the Pentagon

build up conventional forces so that a war of the future need not take the form of a nuclear confrontation. The poor man can't win!

4. Most unforgivable, however, is Zorza's assumption that while the dictator of the totalitarian Russian State is subject to all sorts of pressures which threaten his position and limit his freedom of action, an American President is a sort of god who is raised by his election above faction, pressure and intrigue. Not only, it seems, should Kennedy have ruled his own country wisely; he should also have nursed the leader of its chief opponent in the cold war.

R. J. Burden,
300 Church Street,
Bocking,
Braintree.

Solving Macclesfield's problems sensibly

Sir,—The writer of your article on Macclesfield (September 13) and its readers, might like to know that at least one of the town's problems has been solved. Frost's Mill, referred to by Mr Johnson as "a landmark in the town," has been sold to a small but growing manufacturing company.

This fact is important not only as enlightenment for Mr

Johnson, but also as an example of how Macclesfield and other towns with a changing industrial structure can solve their problems. Within the past year the residents of Macclesfield and its surrounding agricultural districts have protested, understandably and successfully, against two new industrial estates on the boundaries of the town, which would have encroached upon the already fast diminishing Cheshire countryside.

If more of these companies were prepared to take on buildings such as Frost's Mill, "six of which now stand empty" according to your article, the problems of the planners, the farmers whose land is being usurped, and the unemployed in Macclesfield, might be solved at a stroke.—Yours faithfully,

(Mrs) Jill Newsome,
Kerrie,
Nr Macclesfield,
Cheshire.

A raw deal from BBC

Sir,—Thank you for publishing WABC + WQXR + WPAW = BBC PLUS! Exactly my sentiments on returning from a month in the States last year. I am sure that people in this country don't realise what a raw deal they are getting from the BBC. With seven national wavelengths they do not have a choice of 31 programmes.

If people in Syracuse, New York, can have six programmes what about eight million Londoners? Surely we all deserve more choice. I would like the BBC to know that there are people who don't like the pop or old radio plays with the same sounding voices (the same voices) as 20 years ago. Oh yes! they've bridged the generation gap, but bridged clear from grandparents to teenagers. What about the Mums and Dads?

I like music in the car but have Bart Mills trouble with "goblets" so sought a cartridge-tape player not a radio. I have to buy cartridges, but it's worth it to get the type of music you want and no chat. Play something for me, Auntie and don't bother me the title—I'll guess it!—Yours faithfully,

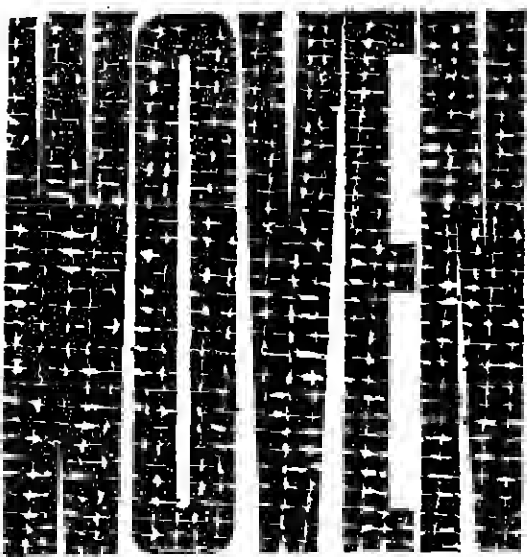
R. D. Macfarlane,
25 Falkland Road,
Newbury,
Berkshire.

Racialism's effects

Sir,—No one who saw the film "Le Chagrin et la Pitié" on television can be excused if they now forget the effects of racialism on a nation. France was undermined and perhaps almost destroyed as much from within by the forces of racial antagonism as from without by German arms.

Nazism was defeated in 1945, but the spectre of racialism still haunts us. This enemy within threatens to destroy our way of life as effectively as any Nazi conquest. I hope that the showing of the film will provide an opportunity for all who uphold humanistic values to renew their dedication to the fight against racialism in all its contemporary forms.—Yours sincerely,

Robert Moore,
Senior Lecturer in Sociology,
University of Aberdeen,
King's College,
Old Aberdeen.



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Victims of the August bomb blast at the Electricity Board headquarters

Plain man's guide to jelly

DAVID FAIRHALL on escalating gelignite explosions: Belfast, Wednesday

detonators, small pencil-like tubes filled with sensitive explosive and attached either to a length of fuse or to wires leading from a battery. Nearly all the detonators used here are made by ICI in Scotland. But the alarming, indeed astonishing, fact is that they carry no marking by which they can be traced after they leave the factory. It is not a printed number, but a some form of indelible coding.

For Major George Styles, head of the army's explosives team in Belfast, it is a subject of bitter complaint,

especially since the death last week of Captain David Stewardson when a bomb blew up in his face as he tried to neutralise it. If only we knew we could trace the man who lost a detonator or sold it illegally, instead of relying on a bit of luck — like finding a fingerprint — it would make a sacrifice like that seem more worthwhile.

The major accepts that a new manufacturing process cannot be introduced overnight. But against the background of steadily escalating terrorism — which may not be confined to the IRA if the

much forecast Protestant backlash materialises — he wants the tap turned off now so that at some predictable time the supply of untraceable components will eventually stop flowing from the industrial pipeline. If necessary the Government could amend the Explosive Substances Act.

Meanwhile the bombing continues, much safer for those who do it than taking on the army in night gun battles, and much more effective in stirring up fear and hatred among the civilian population. The bombs them-

selves range from the very common or garden nail bomb — commonly a four-ounce stick of gelignite wrapped in corrugated cardboard filled with nails and a length of fuse stuck in the end — through to the carefully prepared suitcase time bomb. A pile of scrap iron and rocks stacked in front of a bundle of gelignite, as in Londonderry on Friday night, makes an effective antipersonnel mine.

A vehicle trip wire can set off a simple blast but has not often been used, perhaps because the BBC engineers

killed sometime ago in this way were supposed to have been an army patrol. In nearly every case the components are simple and easy to obtain. An ordinary alarm clock can be used as a timing device, a torch battery as a firing mechanism, a doorbell as a remote control, or a mousetrap as an anti-handling device.

It was some such device which probably killed Captain Stewardson the other day in Castlerock. Not because he was unaware of the danger of a booby-trap. On the contrary, he seems to have known exactly what the man who made the bomb intended, by way of an anti-handling device, but was caught by some accidental instability in the construction of the bomb. A similar bomb was deliberately exploded by the army after careful study of a petrol station near Lishurn at the weekend. But once Major Styles's men are absolutely sure what they are dealing with they will probably neutralise others of this type in the normal way.

Sooner or later all the basic anti-handling principles are likely to be used in Northern Ireland — the anti-lift switch, anti-lift, pressure applied or released — but the army can call on a vast fund of experience which is hardly going to be matched by the IRA. As in other aspects of the military situation here, the army's problem is not dealing with the enemy when he emerges as a cool-headed explosives technician, but when he is nothing more than an excited youngster lighting the fuse attached to a bundle of gelignite as if it were a firework.



Heroin addict—before and after treatment

Heroin heroics

John Ezard on the battle against addiction

JAMES NORMAN stood forth in London yesterday like one of those Biblical prophets who offer a certain cure for a plague. He even delivered the characteristic side-swipe at the ignorant medicals already on the scene—and to complete the resemblance, the Government has refused to listen to him.

In his case, however, the plague is heroin addiction, and Mr Norman has an unusually authoritative claim to be qualified to judge the British scene.

From 1953 to 1968, he was Prisons Commissioner for Hongkong, an island with a heroin epidemic older than Britain's, and 40 times as big.

Mr Norman's message is that — in these hopelessly unpromising conditions — he encouraged the launching of two unconventional treatment centres which achieved a cure rate of 58.8 per cent among 1,400 addicts. His figures are based on an intensive follow-up of addicts for a year after treatment, lasting on average six months.

Armed with such results, he was able to persuade three Governments — Hongkong, Iran and Thailand — with combined populations of nearly 100 million people to soften their traditionally repressive attitude to addicts.

Even Thailand, whose northern area grows most of the Far East's illicit heroin, has agreed to stop recording convictions against criminals found to be addicts if they agree to go to a centre for treatment. In Hongkong, he was entirely responsible for liberalising the law. In Iran and Thailand, he helped draft new laws in his new job as consultant to the UN narcotics division.

But when recently he tried to tell the news to the Elephant and Castle headquarters of the Department of Health and Social Security, he was "taken to see a brigadier or someone who took notes" and has heard nothing since.

Mr Norman's view is that the Brain Committee, the source of most British anti-heroin measures, took a basically wrong step in concentrating on the prevention of addiction almost to the exclusion of rehabilitation.

"God help the addicts," he comments, in a book pub-

lished today, on the central rôle given to psychiatrists as a result of Brain. Ironically, the Home Office advisory committee on drug dependence reported that it could find "very little experience" in rehabilitating addicts in 1968—the year that Hong Kong successes began to become known. "One must conclude that the committee did not look very far—or perhaps did not wish to," Mr Norman writes.

Hongkong's two centres are carefully placed far from towns, one of them for compulsory, court-ordered attenders at Tai Lam, the other for voluntary patients on the island of Shau Kwai Chai, which takes anyone who wants a cure.

They offer intensive open-air work projects—one centre rebuild a peasant village—and adult education classes, supported by a drug withdrawal clinic and a psychiatric observation centre. Mr Norman says the key to their success is that addicts are not designated as "criminals, lunatics or faceless morons." He finds it interesting to read British press reports of hard drugs being smuggled into hospital treatment centres and high security prisons. At the open Tai Lam centre, there was virtually no smuggling for a decade.

"They get so engrossed in the life of the centre that they slowly forget their addiction," said Mr Norman. As a recipe for a cure, that would sound banal and evasive to a Home Office team. But the figures are there to prove it and they are to some extent confirmed by the results of smaller-scale, unpublished regimes run by rural religious orders here.

The lesson appears to be that absorption, without stigma, in a busy small community can wean an addict away from drugs. The common view that a cure can be established—Thailand's centre will cost one million dollars—and might not be justified with Britain's presently declining number of addicts. But for the United States, where expensive psychiatric centres like Lexington are producing ruinous relapse rates, the moral of the Hong Kong "communes" may be worth urgent study.

MISCELLANY

Smoke gets in your line

LISTENERS to Radio 4's "It's Your Line" from Scarborough were unaware of the ordeal by smoke which cigar-lover Jeremy Thorpe unwittingly inflicted on his cigar-lover (retired) Robin Day, who was in a 9ft x 9ft outside broadcast mobile studio on the prom by the conference hall. Day was too polite to tell the Liberal leader that he had given the cigars three weeks ago and was finding it all rather a strain.

The result was that as listeners telephoned their questions, the Thorpe cigar box was trundled out. A huge Havana was lifted from it and



A raw deal from BBC

DAY: abstinence set alight, and for the best part of an hour Robin Day, nostrils twitching, silently cursed the BBC's forgetfulness in not installing air conditioning. The smokeless Day is reported to be considering postponing his abstinence from nicotine until Thorpe and his pyrotechnics have departed.

Green lights

EARLIER this week, the Government discreetly let it be known that Conservative MPs of a Roman Catholic turn of mind would be welcome to go and look at affairs in Northern Ireland. Arrangements were made to ship them across the water and show them the sights and sounds. Kevin McNamara, the Catholic Labour MP for Hull North, heard a whisper, and has written immediately to Geoffrey Johnson Smith, Under-Secretary for the Army. Please, he asks, could similar facilities be granted to Labour members of a similar turn of mind? Answer!

Gale trail

A CONSERVATIVE, if not the Conservative, has joined the mutinous "Spectator" as George Gale's associate editor, Patrick Cosgrave, the man who briefed Ted Heath on his parliamentary questions, replaces Michael Wynn Jones, the man who passed the offending fantasy of Princess Anne's love life. Cosgrave was born and reared in Dublin, took a doctorate at Cambridge, and left the Conservative research department in July to finish the first volume of "Churchill at War," his previous book, "The Public Poetry of Robert Lowell," was dismissed by the "Spectator" but approved by Lowell.

Cosgrave's own "Spectator" of the last Nuffield general election study achieved the rare feat of reconciling David Butler and Hugh Berrington, one of his most perceptive academic critics. He has two bulldozers, a breed about which he has theories. Thank you George.

OVERHEARD at the "Melody Maker" awards party yesterday: First serious-minded pro-

gressive rock buff: "A word in your ear, mate."

Second serious-minded progressive rock buff: "I'm printing into his trousers." All right, you know where to find it.

Absent Fo

BECAUSE he refuses to fly, Dario Fo, the 45-year-old Milanese actor-manager, will not be in London tomorrow night for the opening of his surrealist-Marxist farce, "Seventh Commandment: Thou Shalt Not Steal." Quite So Much, which the Belgian National Theatre is doing at the Old Vic.

Fo runs his own company in Italy. He writes their plays, acts the lead, directs, does the decor, and even designs the playbills. The only thing he doesn't do is write the music for the songs, and, of course, go up in a jumbo.

Iain paeon

MACLEOD speaks. A 12-inch long-playing record has been made of the subtly acid speeches of Iain Macleod, and will be on sale by the time the Tories gather in Brighton next month. One side has three of Macleod's party conference speeches, the other extracts from five broadcasts and other orations.

The record was the idea of Gary Waller, a former chairman of the Conservative pressure group, "YES". The sleeve will have commemorative messages from Ted Heath, Robert Carr, Nigel Fisher, Nicholas Scott and the widow Macleod.

Each disc will sell at about £1.50. Waller hopes it will raise about £700 for the Crisis at Christmas appeal (remember the veterans) of which the late Chancellor was a sponsor. One thousand have been pressed. More to follow, if demand justifies.

Double cross

COMING UP: two Italian film versions of the Crucifixion, by two directors who are politically poles apart.

Franco Zeffirelli, of "Romeo and Juliet," now completing a film about St Francis of Assisi, says that his next work will be "an investigation into the political assassination of Jesus."

Gillo Pontecorvo (brother of Bruno, the British scientist who defected to the Soviet Union 21 years ago, and director of the prize-winning "Battle of Algiers") says that his next film also will be about Jesus. After looking around at contemporary accounts, he has taken his inspiration from Hugh Schonfield's "The Passover Plot," which suggested that Christ contrived his own crucifixion to fulfil messianic prophecies.

Soft cell

A RARE sweet tale from one of Her Majesty's houses of correction. Romantic, even Springlike, the open prison near Aylesbury, has started an account with Unilever, the London firm that sends delicately-wrapped single roses to wives and sweethearts at £1 a bloom.

The governor rings up and orders a rose to be sent for one or other of his 150 charges. The bill goes to him, and he docks the money from their pay. Unilever has sent more than 20 in the past three months.

SILVER MEDAL for the most arresting job ad of the week: "Dangerous drugs, explosives, immigration, law and order, just a few of the interesting subjects you could meet in clerical work in the Home Office."

LAUNCHING Christmas

cards before he autumn equinox may seem a bit out of season, but that was what Unicef was doing on a warm day in London yesterday. And Unicef should know what's what, for it is the pioneer operator in the charity Christmas card business—a business which now provides 10 per cent of its annual revenue (or 40 per cent of the revenue it gets from private sources).

It all began in the most innocent and unplanned way when the first director of Unicef was sent a picture by a Czech schoolgirl which he decided to use as his own personal greetings card. That was in 1947. Last year Unicef sold 70 million cards all round the world, netting about £2 millions. In what is now a highly competitive market it expects to maintain an annual growth rate of between 10 and 20 per cent.

Unicef's expertise today is devoted to keeping fresh an idea which can easily begin to look stale when so many others have climbed on the bandwagon. There have been complaints about the designs. "Where's Santa Claus?" someone was grumbling yesterday. Santa Claus in fact turns up in only one of the cards chosen for distribution here, somewhat incongruously in charge of a Viking longboat.

But if Santa Claus is semi-redundant, in the Unicef scheme of things, it is because the cards, with Season's



Santa's longboat in longboat

Season of mists and Santa cards

Harford Thomas on how card cash helps children

Greetings printed in four languages, have to be good for any country of the United Nations, and Unicef must remember to be self-consciously neutral in its attitudes to the world's religions, and to the world's secular politics, too.

At this it is adroit enough

to sell well in Russia and other Communist countries of Europe with cards good for three occasions in a fortnight—the secular New Year of January 1, the Orthodox Christmas of January 7, and the Orthodox New Year of January 14.

Trying to have the best of many worlds prompts the

Transport of despair

by Ian Breach

BY NOW, most of the students who failed for one reason or another to join the autumn intake to university will be resignedly working on the buses, hitchhiking their way round the world, or simply sitting at home and waiting for another year's applications to be sifted. Among them there must surely be at least half a dozen who did not know at the end of their last school year that places were going begging on one of the more exciting polytechnic courses to be started in years.

The begging has now become a cry of despair at Lancaster Poly, where the three-year diploma course in industrial design (transportation) is threatened with stillbirth if sufficient students cannot be found within the next week or so. Advertisement after advertisement, leaflets have failed to secure the eight or nine still needed to justify the course. An abortion will almost certainly be performed by the DES if they are not found.

Which would be mournful indeed, if one considers the gestation involved. The Lancaster transportation course, a very badly needed bridging of the artistic and scientific disciplines concerned with a subject that touches us all, has—almost unbelievably—been ten years in the making. First discussed by the old college of art and design with Humber Cars (taken over by Rootes, then Chrysler, and now no longer in business), it waited six years before another motor manufacturer, Ford, revived interest.

Department head, Hume Cooke, was appointed, and a draft syllabus prepared four years ago, only to be mothballed while the Summerston/Coldstream review of design education ground its wheels. The final go-ahead this year was a triumph of Cooke's enthusiasm over classic educational inertia, reflected in an inordinately well-

equipped department in the new Coventry building.

Cooke, a former car stylist, industrial designer for Morris-Richards, and once-time head of design at Coventry College of Art, forged the course out of a belief that design is another word for interdisciplinary problem-solving. Thus this course is intended to cross the fields of town planning, transport-system and environmental studies, production technologies, and graphics, with an aim—whether concerned with the evolution of alternatives to the car or the use of visual communication techniques in public transport—of producing truly executive designers.

Although CNAAS status has been sought, initial graduates would emerge with a very worthy, if dull, polytechnic certificate: it will come as no surprise to observers of the design world that Cooke's visionary counterparts in the United States and elsewhere in Europe have comparatively little difficulty in persuading authorities of the need for such studies at natural degree level.

One of the problems has been that a course with such radical objectives requires a rather different sort of entrant. This one, a two-and-a-half year "thin sandwich" of interfacial work, must be unique among art colleges in requiring an "A" level pass in mathematics or a science, or Ordinary National Diploma in engineering, with possible variations for mature students. The philosophy is that it is more hopeful to turn a science-based student into a fully trained designer than to rely on the traditional process of working with fine-art foundation students. There are many designers—and employers of designers—who would readily see the wisdom of this: so, if they can be reached in time, would Lancaster's newest students.

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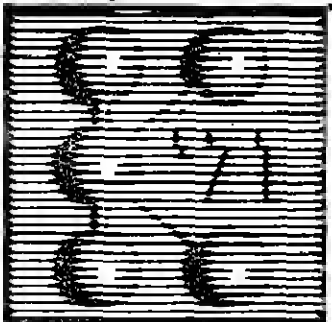
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PLASTICS

ONCE again the industry is gathering at Dusseldorf for the Kunststoffe exhibition, held at four yearly intervals and the most important in the European plastics calendar. This time, at K71, the atmosphere is different. The location is the new exhibition centre erected by NOWEA, the Dusseldorf fair authority, to replace the earlier complex of halls which, by German standards, is now outworn—although still vastly superior to any British facility.

The surroundings, therefore, are impressive. More significant, however, is the fact that the seemingly endless expansion throughout the whole series of Kunststoffe exhibitions since the war is no longer an automatic assumption. During the period since 1967, and especially in the last year or so, tremors have been felt even those triple pillars of the German chemical empire—BASF, Bayer, and Hoechst.

What has happened? There is no evidence that the technological prospects for plastics have become less bright. Indeed, the graphs showing how much plastics are being used still point sharply upwards, even if the slope has eased off a bit. Although the figures vary from country to country, plastics everywhere continue to outstrip the average performance of industry as a whole.

Nevertheless, the practice of blithely projecting such graphs up to the millennium has fallen somewhat into disrepute, and on the whole the industry recognises that there has to be a finite limit to its hitherto headlong progress. But when, and at what level, are questions to which no one knows the answers, and few are prepared to guess.

Commercial

The present difficulties are commercial rather than technical. Manufacture of plastics materials is carried out by the large oil and chemical companies, and the investment required is colossal. In their efforts to secure a maximum share of a growth market, these concerns have vied with each other in the size of their production plants (this is as true of other chemical sectors such as fibres and fertilisers as it is of plastics) so that overcapacity has tended to be the rule in the past few years and profit margins have, with intense price competition, become slim. A period of sharp inflation, making nonsense of cost estimates, with a simultaneous easing off in economic activity, has therefore troubled every major European chemical producer; in fact, the French companies appear to have managed better than most.

In this situation plans have had to be limited, postponed, or even abandoned, and prices are now on a rising trend—this after a period of many

years through which plastics prices have dropped steadily. The visitor to K71 will find the stands of the big chemical companies scarcely less palatial than before, but if he digs a little deeper he will find a much harder commercial core. Technical backing will not be so readily forthcoming for the unknown and particularly the unestablished customer—though if a project is, after scrutiny, assessed as viable in terms of material consumption, support should still be available.

The material manufacturers, however, are but one part of the industry. They account in their own names for only a small, specialised portion of the total sales of plastics end-products. In between them and the consumer come the processors or converters, large in number but generally small in size, especially when compared to the chemical giants (although increasingly the more substantial or successful ones get acquired by a larger group either wanting to meet its own internal demand for plastics components or to diversify).

Plastics converters are subject to all the pressures typically experienced by smaller businesses in an uncertain and inflationary economic climate. As a class, therefore, they are now even more preoccupied than usual with the immediate problems of keeping their machinery busy, their customers happy, and their operations in the black. If this hard-headed approach leaves little time to worry about the industry's growth statistics, it must not be forgotten that the efforts, skill, and capacity for innovation of the plastics moulders and fabricators are as important as the contribution of the material manufacturers in terms of research and development in effecting such growth.

The third major wing of the plastics industry consists of the machinery manufacturers, who have become a progressively more important factor in recent years with the increasing sophistication of processing

Growth graph falters

ROBIN PENFOLD on the end of
plastic's first fine careless rapture

larger in everyone's consciousness. So far as plastics are concerned, the debate has centred on litter, becoming ever more noticeable with growing use of disposable packaging, where the claims for durability of plastics are shown to be only too true. The industry having accepted the problem, it now seems generally accepted that dealing with plastics waste presents no insuperable problems once it is collected. In the meantime research is also in progress into the feasibility of rendering plastics packs degradable, with some promising if so far unproven leads. Probably, however, the only real solution must ultimately lie with the public.

Meanwhile, basic research into plastics continues and, although K71 may throw up one or two completely new materials, these will almost certainly prove to be of highly specialised application. Most of the development interest, certainly at a practical industrial level, centres on modified grades of existing materials, improved processing capabilities, or enhanced properties which can widen applicational opportunities.

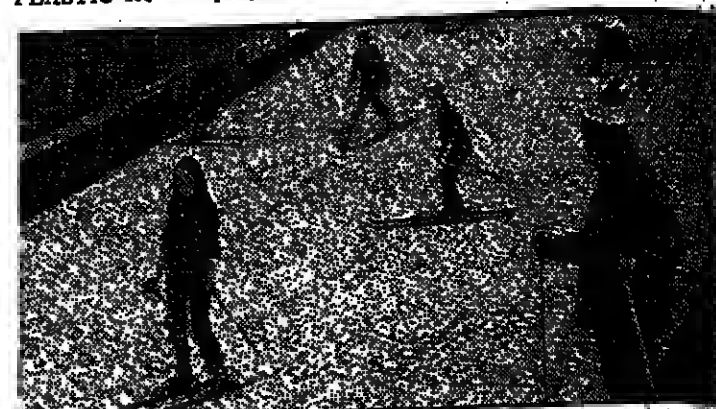
In some areas the plastics industry is still faced with resistance to its products as "substitutes" for traditional materials. This mainly applies to consumer applications, and is found more in Britain than in Germany where consumer attitudes are different. Yet one has to look no farther than one's telephone or toothbrush to realise how firmly—and indeed how—plastics are now established and taken for granted in so many products. K71 is, however, not primarily a consumer exhibition (although many of the German public will visit it) and industry as a whole now recognises the worth of plastics when used properly.

If the growth rate experienced since the war cannot be indefinitely maintained, there are nevertheless numerous fields for major expansion of plastics usage, like transport, building, and furniture. To speak of the possibility of a plastics breakthrough into such areas is, however, misleading.

In the case of the building industry this has been a continuing process since the use of plastics for door furniture, electrical fittings, and the like, between the wars, a more recent example being certain types of plumbing, such as rainwater pipe. Turning to cars, radiator grilles are now rapidly becoming a preserve of plastics. The point is that each of these applications, and hundreds of others, have specific individual requirements, and need individual attention in terms of material grade, design, and method of manufacture. Such matters are the life blood of this fascinating industry, and typical of the sort of subject that most of the discussions between visitors and exhibitors at K71 in the next week will be about.



PLASTIC ROOF: polyester resin on a factory canteen



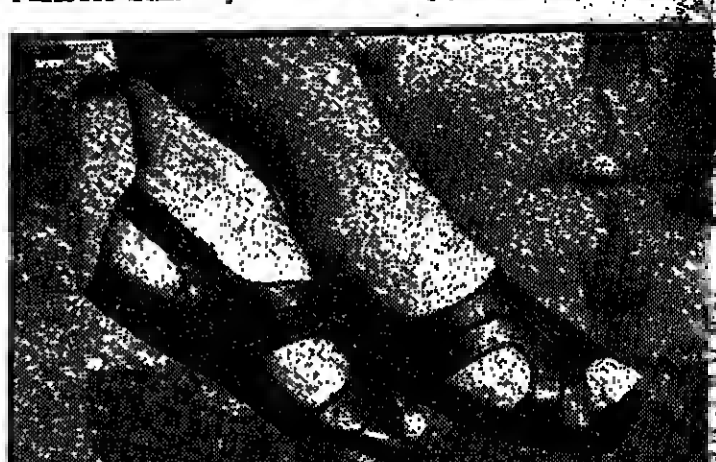
PLASTIC SKIING: Dendix artificial slope in Vybak PVC



PLASTIC CAR: Citroën Mehari in Cyclocac ABS



PLASTIC BARN: fodder in Moubag polyethylene sacks



PLASTIC SHOES: sandals based on plastazote

Rubbish that won't go away

by ALLAN JONES

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IN THE RUINS of Pompeii is preserved a notice advising citizens that they will be dealt with severely if they drop rubbish in the streets. There is nothing new in the attitude of people to their environments. What is new is the dramatic increase in the bulk of deposited litter and the type of material being dropped. Increased bulk is a direct result of higher per capita volumes of material wealth, sales promotion of goods to be used once and thrown away, more mobility of individuals, and an inevitable decline of social conscience in stressed urbanised living.

Changes in the material available for litter also arise from the urbanisation trend. This demands long-distance transport and preservation techniques, packaging, and the use of materials which will resist biodegradation. Glass, which is fading out, was the earliest protective substance. Paper, which is cellulose treated to give it endurance, came in and was followed about a century ago by plastics. The main reason why we are about to face a serious litter problem is that man has followed the deplorable policy of making durable substances which defy the decay mechanisms provided by nature.

Plastics are only part of the problem, but they dominate. Whereas other long-life substances inhibit biodegradation, plastics reject it. The only effective breakdown system is oxidation within the mass, this being encouraged by ultraviolet radiation.

Toxins

If, by some means, the long molecules can be broken down to shorter chains, there is some possibility of biodegradation, but it will be slow decay and there is a danger of toxic pollution if micro-organisms are preselected with new raw material for digestion. If the plastics could be simply reduced to powder without chemical change, the release of possible toxin would be too slow to cause worry and the powder would have some slight value in soil mechanics.

Reduction of volume is essential for any disposal system for plastics if transport is involved. Tin cans crush and paper wets down, but plastics have waterproof elasticity which preserves the open form, not for years but for decades. At present three quarters of mixed rubbish will

either fall flat or suffer easy compression. Within twenty years, three quarters of mixed rubbish will be plastics, refusing to fall flat and resisting inexpensive compression mechanisms. There will be a five-fold increase in volume per weight unit, and a significant increase in total weight.

Forecasts of potential weight increase are strictly academic, being influenced by far too many variables to be accurate. The range of application of plastics is changing rapidly, notably towards mass-replacement markets previously underdeveloped in favour of specialised luxury goods. Soft plastics have been asked at uses which demand their peculiar properties and where other materials could not compete. It is now evident that the comparative economics allow more direct competition in common markets.

The significant analysis is the trend of price/performance for plastics against all other materials. Natural fibres were undercut some six or seven years ago. Glass is presently being undercut by far too much progress will not then be made in paper, wrapping paper and some art papers, are converting to plastics and most of the cardboard packaging cannot compete against shrink-wrap.

The important consideration is that this is not technical replacement, although plastics offer advantages, but replacement based on cost. Some time around 1994 plastics/performance levels will allow comprehensive replacement of common metal. At this point the only inhibition to sales progress will be availability of raw material and conversion capacity. We will have reached the science fiction setting of total synthesis, including food. Concomitant progress will not then rely on invention but on the rate of diffusion of technology.

Future market expansion for plastics, which directly concerns litter volume and type, can be broadly split into replacement and the wider development of existing technological revolutions. To indicate the order of change, only two examples need mention.

The first is replacement of urban vegetation in the face of increasing pollution and decreasing availability of manual labour. Synthetic grass is available now with better performance and lower cost than natural grass.

With regard to the development of technological revolutions, plastics in agriculture will offer a third more yield with

adjustable harvest times and, again, less cost. We can look forward to plastics covering both urban and rural areas, with a five times increase at least in the volume of deposited litter, the litter being permanent.

A study of present litter problems is not likely to resolve anything, but it can indicate the various potential origins of disaster and it can reveal the factors which lead to litter creation. There is evidence that plastics litter produces no chemical damage to ecology, but that physical damage is probable, as it is with any litter. Plastics offer more overall physical damage because they last longer.

Ecology

The present damage from litter is almost insignificant when compared with damage from agricultural chemicals, interference with ecological balances, and general pollution. The major present crime of litter, all litter from plastics bottles to slag heaps, is negligible. The serious nature of this crime is not fully appreciated. We live in a world of constant tension under conditions for which the human being was not designed. It is necessary for universal sanity for people to make contact at frequent intervals with Nature in the raw-unprocessed, un-

adulterated, and undemanding. Punctuated of natural environments by items of litter reduce the recuperative influence.

In due course, when the litter volume has increased five times plus, there will be significant physical damage alongside the ugliness. The main areas of influence, which examine are disruption of soil mechanics, which include drainage and the retention of soil chemicals, and the interface interference when water meets land or air. Ecology depends mainly on the supply of water to vegetation and the supply of oxygen to all organisms, in or out of water.

What can be done with the person who drops litter is a difficult question. Man is an animal conceived and educated by Nature, conforming to the natural role that ungoverned substance is destined to follow. Life orders for biodegradation allowing progressive degeneration to basic chemical unit subsequently to be rebuilt in new tissue. It would be possible to educate everybody in the biological performance of plastics, and certainly impossible to gain a social conscience in a mankind. Let it be faced: we will always be a litter but dropping litter brings neither punishment nor discomfort.

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A GUARDIAN SPECIAL REPORT

Driving steel off the road

by ALEXANDER LEIGH

PLASTICS are attractive for transport usage because they are light in weight, unaffected by corrosion, have high consumer appeal, require little or no maintenance, and are readily shaped.

The automotive industry nearly presents the most challenging area for plastics in transport because of its sheer size and scale of output. Indeed, the average use of plastics in each British car produced in 1970 has been assessed at 100lb. In the United States, where not only are cars larger, but there is a far more deeply entrenched tradition of plastics usage among automotive engineers, American industry thinks in terms of incorporating this figure in the next decade, so that the scope for expansion in Britain—as in Europe as a whole—is very real.

50 years ago

In fact plastics were first employed in cars some 50 years ago when moulded phenolics in their good insulating properties were employed for simple electrical parts. Since plastics have been progressively used in one automotive application after another, including components in mechanical and non-

mechanical, as well as trim, cable insulation, etc. With deeper understanding by designers of the capabilities of the many different engineering plastics now available—notably ABS, acetal, acrylic glass, reinforced polyester, nylon, polycarbonate, polypropylene, polyurethane, and PVC types—it is now well known that plastics behave quite differently from materials such as metal and wood, and need a distinct approach.

In designing a car component in plastics, the stage has now long been superseded where the new material was regarded merely as a substitute for whatever was used before, and the original shape changed as little as possible. Whole assemblies are nowadays completely redesigned to take full advantage of the superior properties of plastics, while their suitability for mass production in complex shapes often enables many stages in component finishing and assembly to be eliminated.

A good example of an application where costly metal fabrication is replaced by a single moulding operation is to be seen in radiator grilles. The first plastics grille appeared in the US in 1935. Pontiac American car producers are using them; the material being ABS. In Europe, the first such grilles appeared in 1967, and they are now being used by most important manufacturers, including BMW, British Ley-

land, Chrysler, DAF, Peugeot, Renault, Vauxhall, and Volvo.

In addition to being used for numerous other body components such as instrument clusters, consoles, fascias, and trim, various of the plastics listed above are increasingly found in "under-bonnet" uses for mechanical parts, for example fans, and also for associated systems such as heater ducts. Cable insulation has long been made from PVC, and seats are now usually upholstered with PVC coated fabric and have flexible polyurethane foam squabs.

Crash pads are normally of composite plastics construction, and indeed the energy absorption characteristics of plastics make them particularly valuable in helping to meet greater demands for safety. Other components for which plastics are now strong contenders include petrol tanks and seat frames.

Whole bodies

However, for all this growing parts list, the future for plastics in cars must clearly lie in usage on the mass production line, for panels and complete bodies. Cars made from glass fibre reinforced polyester resins (GRP) have, of course, been produced since the mid-fifties. But this production process is, exceptionally for the plastics industry, a highly laborious one, in that the body is produced by hand lay-up of glass

fibre mat and resin, and further time and space is then occupied before assembly can commence while curing takes place. Since the moulds employed are expensive, however, these materials are well suited for specialised manufacture, e.g. sports vehicle bodies, prototypes, or commercial vehicle panels, from "one-off" jobs up to a production level of around 5,000 units a year.

It must also be made clear that plastics will not replace steel in cars produced in really large numbers—upwards from about 80,000-100,000 annually. Not only do the manufacturers have an immense investment in plant to produce pressed steel bodies, but at these rates the very expensive tooling associated with steel is counter-balanced by comparatively low material costs.

Between these upper and lower limits, however, is an area in which a substantial proportion of car and commercial vehicle manufacture lies. Although other possible methods of production are under study the one on which interest and actual practice has so far centred is sheet thermoplastic. Since this process basically involves drawing heated and softened thermoplastic sheet, usually by vacuum, into or over a mould, it is ideally suited for forming shapes such as panels and complete body shells. Thermoplastic tools are very much cheaper than those used in injection

moulding, so that not only can the process be economically used for much shorter production runs than the tens of thousands familiar in injection work, but it is also suitable for prototypes, where easy tool modification is essential. Furthermore, production thermoplastic tools are substantially less expensive than matched metal tooling used in conjunction with GRP.

Truck cab

Work on thermoplastic major car components commenced in the USA in the early 1960s, and in 1965 the White Motor Company introduced a truck cab produced by this method. Marbon in the USA subsequently developed a series of ABS bodied research vehicles culminating in 1968 with the Formaca, which unlike its predecessors was designed for volume production. All this series were sports cars, essentially comprising thermoplastic one-piece top and bottom body shells.

The first thermoplastic bodied car actually to achieve volume production was the Citroën Dyane 6 Mehari, launched in 1968 and production of these popular and sturdy runabouts now runs into tens of thousands. The design concept was in the event completely different from the experimental cars mentioned above consisting of eleven

basic thermoformed ABS panels simply attached by bolts to the standard Dyane 6 chassis, permitting easy replacement of body parts.

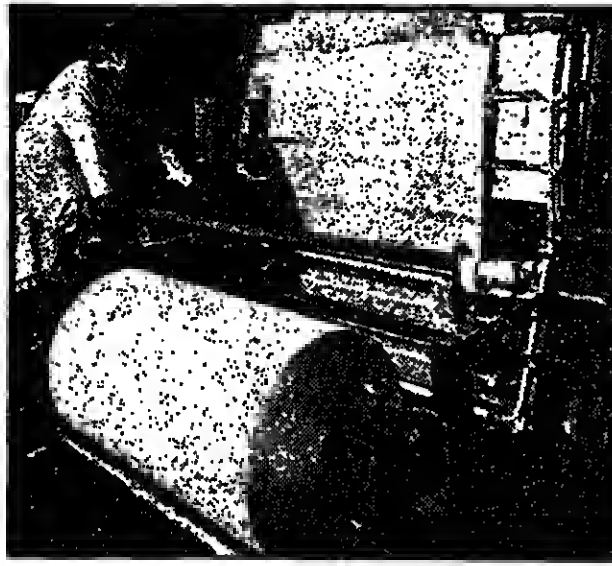
The small boat industry is another ripe field for plastics. Glass reinforced materials are already firmly established and are much used by small yards in replacement of wood but, with explosive public interest in sailing, the mass production of thermoformed hulls becomes highly attractive because of economies of scale, speed of manufacture, and the great design freedom conferred. Boats based on such hulls are now produced in France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom. With sheet now being extruded up to 3 metres wide and more, and the availability of thermoplastic machines able to handle it, such craft are becoming bigger. The very latest ABS-hulled sailing boat, from West Germany, has a length of 4.35 metres and is 1.74 metres in the beam. There is, however, no question of a challenge at this stage to the use of GRP for hulls for larger boats such as sailing cruisers and even small trawlers and naval craft such as are now being turned out.

With the advent of flame-retardant thermoplastics of light weight, it is expected that significant quantities will be used in the aerospace industry.

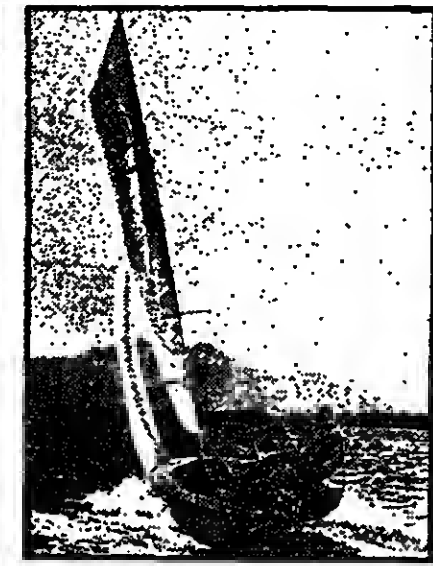
● ALEXANDER LEIGH is managing director of Marbon Europe



STIC CARAFE PVC wine bottle



PLASTIC WALLS: WPM vinyl paper with PVC



PLASTIC BOAT: Klepper Trainer



PLASTIC PAPER: on micro record system

When plastics are making inroads into almost every industry, and superseding many traditional materials, it is to overlook the fact that they are actually helping some established man-made materials maintain an important role in many applications. Modern technology has several examples of plastics being used in conjunction rather than competition with "conventional" materials.

In the packaging industry, for example, plastics mouldings and films are increasing the number of applications, this does not mean that there are fewer uses for paper and board—the materials which for years have been a first choice for wrapping and packing all kinds of goods and commodities. In recent years, an important alliance has been formed between paper, plastics, and manufacturers of additives. Papers and boards whose properties are improved by incorporating a little resin to the paper or plastic medium are used for many of today's very serviceable and colourful packages and cartons.

Development of plastic resins in use in paper-coating mixtures stems from production of "wet strength" resins—aminoplastic resins which enable paper to remain strong when wet. Paper which does not have this characteristic is generally unsuitable for wrapping and packing goods which contain moisture, or which are liable to become damp while stored in transit.

Moisture quickly breaks the mechanical and chemical bonds linking the individual fibres of the unmodified paper, but if a resin is added to the paper during the papermaking process, a product is obtained which is far more difficult to break apart. This is because the resin, a thermoplastic, is substantially soluble in water. The resin, as the paper leaves the

Wrap up and keep dry

B. ISHERWOOD on the marriage with paper

paper machine, and it bonds the fibres together so securely that they cannot easily be parted, even if the paper does become wet.

Resin-bonded wet strength paper went into commercial production in this country in the 1940s, and today it finds numerous outlets in the packaging field—particularly in the food industry. Meat and fish wraps are two obvious examples. Multi-wall paper sacks are now made by the million for packaging potatoes, fertilizers, seed corn, solid fuel, and dozens of other products. They would not have obtained such prominence in the packaging industry but for the availability of plastic resins which ensure that the paper from which they are made, and the adhesives which seal their seams, retain much of their strength when subjected to damp conditions.

Plain board
It is only comparatively recently that packaging has become such an important aspect of distribution and display. At one time, the main purpose of a package was to protect and contain a product, and most of them were made from plain board or kraft paper. Greaseproof paper, once considered the only wrapping suitable for wet produce, was made by a slow and expensive process, however, and wet strength paper soon captured much of its market.

But with increasing emphasis on marketing and sales promotion, demand developed for a method of improving the surface of paper and board so that it would accept high-quality colour

printing. Furthermore, the printed paper also needed surface protection so that the image would remain unmarred by dampness and scuffing, both when the package was on its way to the shops, and when it stood on the shelves. A smooth and durable coating was therefore needed.

While packaging papers and boards bearing colour printed designs originally needed water-resistant coatings because they were subjected to moisture after being printed, recent increases in use of offset litho processes for printing cartons and wrappings has posed another problem. This is that the surface of the paper is dampened during printing. A water resistant coating is therefore even more necessary for paper and board printed by offset litho than it is for material printed by photogravure and letterpress. The paper coating must remain intact in spite of being subjected to moisture and pressure during the printing process.

Various kinds of coated papers are produced today, the coating medium usually being a pigment made from china clay, titanium dioxide, and calcium carbonate. These pigments have binders of casein, latex, or starch, or combination of the three. In the last 10 years, use of starch and latex has increased due to shortages of casein. Pigmented coatings provide a uniformly smooth surface which is ideal for colour printing, and since packaging now has to catch the shopper's eye, the coated paper product, colour-printed coated papers have considerable advantages in packaging.

But although starch is the cheapest, and therefore widely used, pigment binder, it has the disadvantage of being easily resolubilised when subjected to moisture. Consequently, when a package made from a paper with a starch-based coating becomes damp the coating soon deteriorates, and the printed design is spoiled. This problem is solved by using starch-based coatings containing aminoplastic resins. The resin insolubilises the starch, making it water-resistant and the

printed surface is thereby preserved.

Packaging boards intended for colour printing are usually coated with latex-bound pigments, which are more water-resistant than starch, but nevertheless amino resins are often incorporated in them as an added safeguard against the effects of moisture, both during printing and in subsequent use—in the trade term, to impart "wet rub resistance."

Printing papers with aminoplastic coatings are in fact multi-purpose, being suitable for letterpress, gravure, and offset litho. They provide a good balance between the various properties needed for each process, and enable the printer to use the same grade of paper no matter which printing process is employed.

Food packs are a noteworthy major outlet for coated papers and boards. So many prepacked goods are now clamouring for the housewife's attention in supermarkets and self-service stores that eye-catching designs are imperative if a pack is to sell well. These can be printed quite cheaply by offset litho, so it is true to say that if coated papers have not helped make shopping easier, they have certainly made it more colourful.

Another advantage of using paper for packaging which should not be overlooked is that while all-plastics packages and wrappings are sometimes difficult to dispose of, papers and boards with plastics insolubilised coatings or containing wet strength resins, do not normally cause problems. They can be destroyed or processed for reuse quite easily.

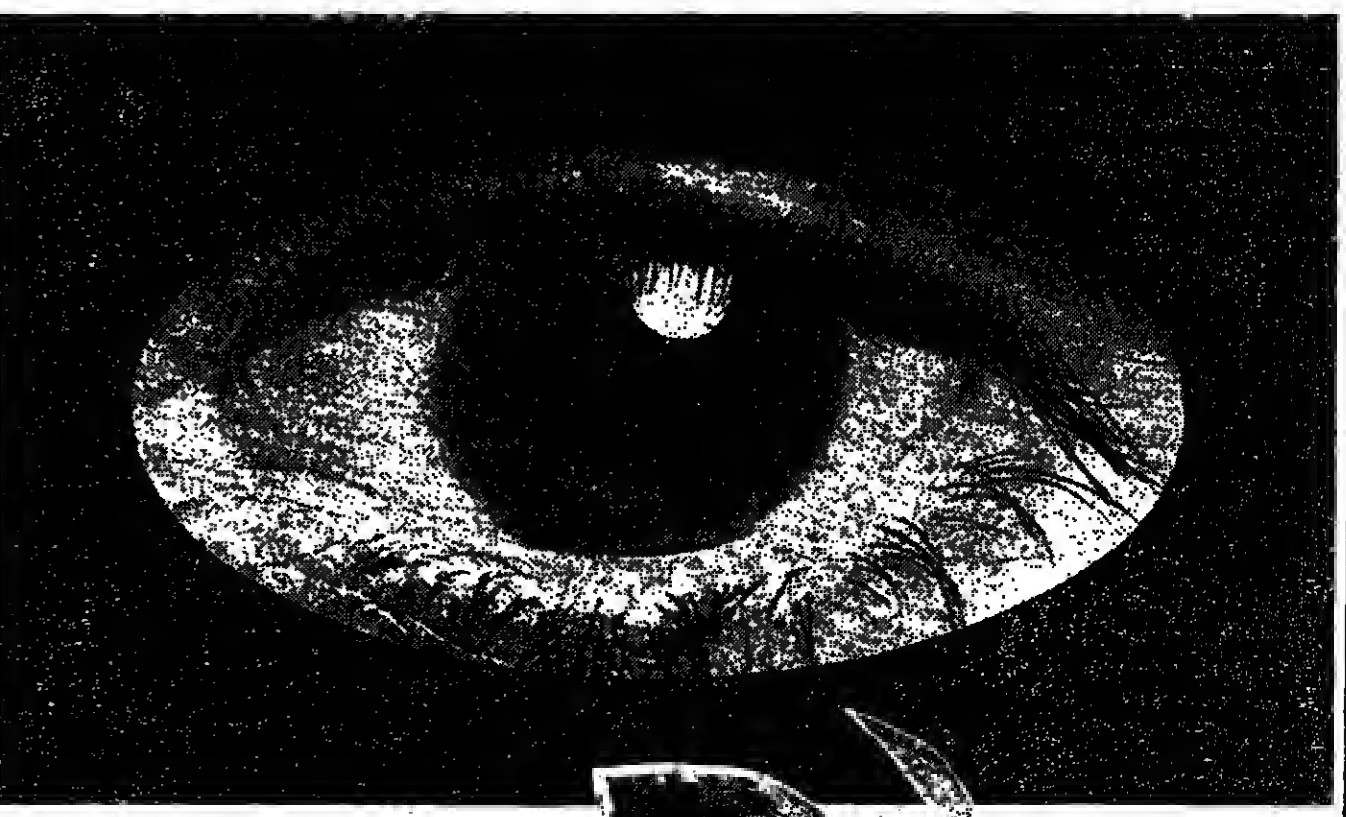
Wet strength

An interesting example of the way in which aminoplastic resins reduce waste disposal problems is found in the labels of returnable bottles. Labels for beer and wine bottles are often made from wet-strengthened paper for two reasons—to prevent them from deteriorating due to condensation in refrigerators, and to make them easier to recover when bottles are returned to the bottling plant. When the bottles are washed, the wet strength labels float to the surface of the water and are easily skimmed off.

Another important application of plastics in the coating of cellulose materials is found in the manufacture of transparent cellulose film. This is a "coated paper", since it is made from regenerated cellulose fibres, and is given a thermoplastic coating to render it moisture proof and enable it to be heat-sealed. Before the thermoplastic coating is applied the cellulose film is treated with an amino resin which forms a water-resistant bond between the cellulose and the thermoplastic. Many new and different types of cellulose film have been developed, and the material is more than holding its own against competition from plastics film.

● B. ISHERWOOD works for BIP Chemicals.

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WOVEN If year
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Plan to correct economy index

By PETER RODGERS

The Industrial Production Index dropped slightly in July after three months at a cautious peak, but Whitehall statisticians are as usual reluctant to draw sweeping conclusions from the month's change because of technical problems with the figures.

These have made the index an unreliable month by month guide to the health of the economy, but new techniques are to be introduced shortly—probably next month—which may solve one of the worst inaccuracies.

This occurs in the production index for engineering, which recently has often thrown out the index by large amounts because provisional estimates have had to be revised substantially later on.

The Central Statistical Office has devised a new "smoothing" technique which has been tested on the engineering figures for the last year and a half.

The engineering revisions occur when the forms turn up late. The June set, for instance, has been revised down three points to 127, seasonally adjusted.

Last month's second quarter estimate for manufacturing industries has been revised downwards a full point to 127.5, mainly because of engineering. The problems over the figures mean that the fall in July and the consequent drop in the three-monthly average are not nearly enough to destroy the impression of a reasonably sustained recovery in industry.

For the three months from May to July production was 1.3 per cent up on the previous three months, with a 1.5 per cent increase for manufacturing. In August the equivalent growth rates were both 1.7 per cent.

Connally says US will wait to win its point

By HELLA PICK

The Finance Ministers of the Group of Ten met yesterday in the formal setting of Lancaster House. The most eagerly awaited statement, that of Mr John Connally, the US Secretary of the Treasury, did not come until the late afternoon after a ritualistic British tea-break.

Mr Connally was conciliatory in tone, but uncompromising in his position. The US is standing by its insistence that America's trading partners must resign their currencies, take on a great share of the defence burden, and bring down their trade barriers. Between them, they must help the US achieve a large balance of payments surplus.

The US Secretary of the Treasury, flanked by Mr Burns, the head of the Federal Reserve Board, made it clear to the Group of Ten that America was in no mood to achieve a solution: the US would not be content with a short-term patching up of the monetary system. It wanted something that would last at least another quarter of a century.

America's fundamental disequilibrium had to be corrected. He could not accept the view of those who were arguing that it was asking too much of America's trading partners to take steps that would assure the US of a positive balance of payments.

Mr Connally wanted more: he insisted, just as Mr Volcker had done in Paris a week earlier, that America's trading partners must help the US to achieve a swing-round in its payments balance of \$13 billion. Burns added that this implied a US balance of trade surplus of at least \$7.5 billion a year.

Although the other nations dispute these estimates, Mr Connally insisted that they were conservative. He went on to

express surprise at the vehement criticism which has been directed against the 10 per cent import surcharge.

Though he stressed that it was temporary, he held out no hope for its early removal. That, he said, would not merely depend on satisfactory realignment of currencies, but on the achievement of fair trading practices by America's trading partners and a solution to the problem of burden-sharing.

America did not want to build up a trade wall, and indeed wanted nothing better than trade liberalisation. He did believe that the surcharge was such a major threat to other countries as they were implying. It would not, he estimated, decrease US imports by more than \$1.2 billion a year. Pointing a vague finger in the Japanese direction, Mr Connally reportedly added that some of you can absorb this individually.

Mr Connally had nothing new to say about the gold price. Though he stopped short of a refusal to raise the price of gold against the dollar, he insisted that the US position on this was well known.

In any case, the much-vaunted joint tackle of the US by Britain and the EEC did not materialise yesterday. The Chancellor of the Exchequer Mr Barber, will not be speaking until today and the only member of the EEC to speak yesterday was Italy. Signor Ferrari-Aggradi did, in fact, speak on the lines defined by the EEC on Monday: return to fixed parities, and multinational including the devaluation of the dollar.

But he added a great many refinements which have not been discussed by the Community. There was certainly nothing yesterday by way of an confrontation on the gold price issue; and there is no

doubt that Germany feels far less strongly about this than, for example, France.

Mr Anthony Barber's only public utterance yesterday was to say that "we have made a good beginning in the sense that various Finance Ministers have made their position clearer. It has been a useful discussion."

Mr Geoffrey Rippon, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, speaking outside the Group of Ten to a meeting of US fund managers did, however, define Britain's position more clearly. He said last night that mutual strength and prosperity would depend on "the progressive liberalisation of trade, a viable system of currency convertibility and a high degree of freedom for international investment."

The last point is of special significance, since much of the technical talk inside the Group of Ten is concerned with curbing the flow of US investment overseas, which has been such a major factor in producing the US deficit.

Sterling, dollar seesaw nervously

By TOM TICKELL

There were big movements between the pound and the dollar in London's foreign exchange market yesterday. But the demand was not all for pounds as it had been on Tuesday, so that the rate tended to seesaw.

The general mood was nervous with the Group of Ten meeting and most dealers suspected that the Bank of England had been intervening to support the dollar at various points in the morning. Dealing had begun at \$2.4705 dollars to the pound and then moved to \$2.4725 before it started to ease back.

The dollar's high point over the day was when the rate was at \$2.4695 to the pound. It did not stay at that level long and the closing price was \$2.4713. Dealers said that deals were still being done at the higher individual transactions—over \$1 million—sometimes affected the rates by themselves.

It was not only the spot markets that showed big movements. There were also shifts in the forward markets which were less active than yesterday, though rates remained high. The longer the period before delivery the bigger was the discount against the dollar. For deliveries in six months there was an interest rate of 1.55 cents in the dollar, where the rate in dollars for delivery in one month was only just over the half cent mark.

In Germany the dollar reached a new low point for the second day in succession. The rate at the fixing was 3.3668 DM.

	Market	Closing	Previous
N. York	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
London	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Frankfurt	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Paris	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Geneva	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Basle	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Zurich	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Brussels	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Amsterdam	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Stockholm	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Copenhagen	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Helsinki	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Tokyo	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Osaka	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Kobe	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Yokohama	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Singapore	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Batavia	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Manila	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Cebu	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Calcutta	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Rangoon	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Bombay	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Madras	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Colombo	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Delhi	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Jaipur	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Bhopal	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Varanasi	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Patna	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Gwalior	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Indore	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Bikaner	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Jodhpur	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Udaipur	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Durgam	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Bhilai	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Rourkela	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Bhilai	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Rourkela	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Bhilai	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713
Rourkela	2.4713	2.4713	2.4713

Italy urges monetary plan

By RAMON EISENSTEIN

Signor Ferrari-Aggradi, the Italian Minister of Finance, put forward to the group of ten meeting a subtle and difficult plan for the reform of the international monetary system.

Among the measures he proposed were the limitation of convertibility of current transactions only; a new price structure for gold that would not alter its average price; the gradual phasing out of the dollar as an international reserve currency.

Signor Ferrari-Aggradi criticised the American authorities

for trying to reach fundamental balance of payment surplus. He thought that this was too ambitious because the balance of payments deficit had lasted for too long and the structure of the international economy was tuned to it.

An overall surplus would only lead to a squeeze on international liquidity and the growth of world trade. He said that a better objective for the Americans would be to try to get their payments into equilibrium.

The Italian delegation made a four-point plan for the reform of the International Monetary System. The most significant of these is that free convertibility between currencies would be maintained on current transactions only.

The International Monetary Fund already makes a distinction between capital and current transactions. The Italian proposal would only make the latter convertible.

This poses all sorts of technical and administrative difficulties, one of which being to make a clear distinction between what is current and what is capital. This could be, for example, important for the future of foreign investments.

A more immediate problem is the future of the dollar balances and how these would be split up. A spokesman for the Italian delegation admitted that the plan was fraught with difficulties. But he said that it was an instrument for discussion rather than cut and dried proposals for action.

CITY COMMENT

Encouraging omens

FOR PLESSEY fans the depressing thing about yesterday's statement is not the fourth quarter performance—predictably abysmal—but the current state of play.

One might have thought that the incipient consumer boom plus price increases and more lucrative Post Office work would by now be cushioning effects of the US debacle and flat industrial demand; but no such luck. The first half of 1971-2, already in its tenth week, "is unlikely to show any improvement" but omens for the second half are more encouraging—because of the expected revival in the economy.

The snag here is that while domestic demand will surely pick up quickly and forcefully, the unknown remains the ill-fated Alloy Unimol acquisition in the US. Plessey is putting on a brave face about prospects of the reorganised US division making a profit.

But the modest surplus that seems in prospect will still fall dismally short of the amount needed to service the big boost to paid capital.

Meanwhile, the figures

Excluding Alloys, fourth quarter pre-tax profits (usually the best three months of each year) slumped by 24 per cent and for the full 12 months, by 8 per cent to £22.9 millions. Bring in Alloys—before tax—and the decline is 13.9 per cent to £21.4 millions. The position gets worse below the line where earnings per share, not allowing for exceptional items, are 26 per cent down at 6.8p and 6.1p if the exceptional items are included.

Reasons for the setback are varied, ranging from the demand problems at home to the more important downturn in the US, aggravated by start-up losses on new projects. Labour difficulties have also been a material factor and Sir John Clark's view that labour relations are "good" has to be viewed against yesterday's white-collar action at Richfield.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect about the forthcoming balance sheet will be the strong cash position. In spite of all the difficulties there has been a marginal improvement in the working capital ratio and there is unlikely to be any further significant borrowings to finance the large number of expansion and development projects in hand.

The market's uncertainty about the immediate outlook is reflected by yesterday's price movements—up 5p to 141p at

one stage only to close unchanged at 135p, or nearly 20 times earnings. The market appears to have discounted the lack-lustre first half so the improvement from here on will depend on the second half recovery. It will be a stock to be held with great patience.

RTZ Put on its mettle

SIR VAL DUNCAN, chairman of Rio Tinto-Zinc, firmly and rightly refuses to crystal gaze into the future. By the very nature of its activities RTZ is a cyclical share and the company depends essentially on the price of base metals, mainly copper and iron. This in turn is tuned to the demands of the United States company.

With metal prices at near the lowest point for years and a recession in the United States lower profits were only to be expected for the first half of the year. This is as much as Sir Val had already said at the annual general meeting.

The fall is made all the worse because it compares with a particularly prosperous period. Net profits are down from £14 millions to £10.3 millions on sales that rose £217 millions to £224 millions.

The source of the problems is traceable to the operating profit down by 27 per cent to £33.1 millions. Some of RTZ's major subsidiaries, including Rio Algom, Palabora and Conzinc Riontinto of Australia, had already reported much lower profits and city analysts had a fair idea of the final outcome.

The main problems came from falling copper prices and worldwide surplus capacity on the smelting front. This was to some extent offset by an increased contribution from the Hamersley iron complex in Australia.

The other big hurdle, again not of RTZ's own making, is the currency situation. Many of the group's contracts are made on long term in US dollars.

The company is unrepentant about this for two reasons. First, it claims that getting long-term contracts is advantageous because of uncertainties of commodity prices. This sounds good logic especially in the light of the present situation.

Secondly, new developments are usually debt financed and the production is sold forwards in the same currency. The net result is that losses because of parity changes will be minimal.

RTZ is restructuring its business to adjust to new conditions. The lead and zinc interests are being integrated through the merger between New Broken Hill Consolidated and CRA, two of the associated companies.

These will take over the loss-making Avonmouth smelting complex after the losses have been written down and the smelting operations put into shape.

But RTZ will not lose on this either. It has sold 1.6 million of its 3.6 million British Petroleum shares at a good profit and the losses are being written against the taxable capital profits.

The group's major developments, the Bougainville copper mine in New Guinea, and the Lorne copper mine in Canada, are coming into operation several months sooner than expected and this and the fact that the US economy is picking up could mean that the shares which closed at 315p have reached the nadir.

TUBE INVESTMENTS First shots of battle

TUBE INVESTMENTS' 27p per share bid for the Peterborough based Newall Machine Tool announced yesterday has many of the signs of a sighting shot, although the company (naturally enough) strenuously denies the suggestion.

In the morning, before the bid was announced Newall's shares were quoted at 27p, so the Tubes bid hardly looks generous. It is fair to say that there was a bid premium already built into the price for rumours of talks had spread from the local press in Peterborough to the City. The shares have risen sharply from a price of 23p at the beginning of the week.

Tubes commented yesterday that it had had friendly talks with Newall over the past few days but that the Newall board "preferred to do their own thing" and were not anxious to be taken over by such a giant organisation.

Newall's statement following the announcement of the bid backs up this interpretation. The Newall directors said that they had broken off the merger talks because they did not consider the acquisition of Newall by Tubes to be in the interests of either Newall's shareholders or its business at the present time.

For good measure they added that their merchant bankers (naturally enough) consider the terms of the proposed offer to be "wholly inadequate."

For Tube Investments to come back with an outright bid after having been given the brush-off very firmly at the sounding out stage is evidence of determination. Newall's grinding machine business would fit very well into its existing machine tool division, and grinding machines are, of course, a growth area in what is at the moment a very depressed industry.

The Newall board is in no position to block the bid—they own about 12 per cent of the equity—but firms like this (small provincial organisations) have in general very loyal shareholders who are not going to be impressed by 64 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock—which is the only paper Tubes is offering.

The Newall directors' advice to shareholders to hang on to their shares looks sound.

LOA attacks 'flaw' in new pensions plan

By STEWART FLEMING

The Life Offices Association, whose members will be the principal beneficiaries of the Government's new pension schemes, yesterday issued a sharply critical analysis of one of the fundamental elements of the White Paper proposals.

While welcoming in principle the "Strategy for Pensions" White Paper, the LOA has attacked the proposed State reserve scheme on the grounds that it will provide inadequate benefits for older members and that it will therefore be difficult for occupational schemes to operate in conjunction with it.

So reluctantly, and for very different reasons, the LOA finds itself the no doubt embarrassed ally of the Labour Party, whose pension proposals it fought so bitterly two years ago.

The LOA points out that the proposed State reserve scheme has been constructed along what might be described as "piggy bank" lines, and not on the principle applied to newly established private occupational pension schemes.

Individuals who have been in the State reserve scheme the longest will get the best benefits; conversely older workers joining the scheme will do badly out of it. This of course is a fundamental criticism for it threatens to perpetuate into the next century a large pocket of poverty—the aged.

The LOA suggests that, as in new occupational schemes, there should be a redistribution of the fund's income towards the aged. The Government has probably been reluctant to consider such a structure on the grounds that it would be politically unpopular.

The LOA's motives in making the criticism are probably unkind. There will be some concern about the standard of living of old age pensioners. But perhaps of more pressing interest to the LOA is the danger that the proposed structure of the State reserve scheme makes it a particularly attractive alternative

to the employer with a young labour force who is now facing the decision whether or not to set up a private pension scheme.

Because of the low standards which the White Paper has set for qualifying occupational pension schemes, there is a real danger that when it matures some time early in the next century, the State reserve scheme will be providing its original members with better benefits than many private occupational pension schemes.

This danger is particularly relevant bearing in mind the White Paper's hints that the State reserve scheme will keep abreast of the cost of living. Qualifying occupational pension schemes will not have this requirement imposed on them except so far as retired pensioners are concerned.

Following on from this, the LOA is also worried about the influence the investment managers of the State reserve scheme will exercise.

Mr G. V. Bayley, chairman of the Pensions Committee of the LOA, pointed out that contributions to the State reserve scheme of £250 millions per year, were equal to about 12 per cent of the net new personal saving of £2,000 millions annually.

These anxieties aside it is quite clear that private industry is delighted with the Government's proposals, and curious to see how it proposes to fill in the details. There is curiosity too about what the Government proposes to do with its income from the State basic scheme.

The White Paper envisages that contributions to the State basic flat rate scheme will rise in line with earnings. But the benefits will only increase in line with the cost of living.

Since the cost of living index tends to rise rather more slowly than the earnings index there seems to be an implied surplus building up in the proposed State basic scheme.

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Land Securities

Profit and dividend forecasts exceeded; continued growth ahead

RECORD RESULTS

The Land Securities Group results for the year ended 31st March 1971 were again a record with net income up from £4.7m to £5.8m — some £1.2m ahead of the forecast made in October 1970. Total dividend for the year has been increased from 74% to 84%.

A further rise in the net asset value per ordinary share from 154p to 191p (allowing for the exercise of outstanding conversion rights) reflects the substantial increase in the market value of the Group's properties as established by Messrs. Knight Frank & Rutley.

Construction work on West End and City of London developments is going ahead satisfactorily and letting negotiations on a major City office block are well advanced. In suburban London, the provinces, Wales and Scotland there has been continued progress at all stages of redevelopment — planning, construction and letting.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

In the absence of unforeseen circumstances and assuming Corporation Tax remains at 40%, it is expected that the results for the current year will allow for a small increase in dividend.

As stated last year, over the longer term the Directors are confident of a progressive and, in due course, substantial increase in the amounts available for distribution, and a continued rise in excluding all properties held for, or in course of, redevelopment — is confirmed in an analysis prepared by Messrs. Knight Frank & Rutley in conjunction with their valuation of properties.

If you would like a copy of the Report and Accounts for the year to 31st March, 1971, please write to the Secretary, THE LAND SECURITIES INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED, Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6BT.

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Bestobell's half year profit held

Bestobell, the engineering and chemical group, today announced virtually unchanged interim profits and a maintained interim dividend of 12½ per cent. The pre-tax profit for the six months of 1971 was £1,075,000, against £1,036,000 for the previous year.

With the smaller provision for losses incurred by associated companies and a reduced charge for taxation, the attributable profit increased from £500,000 to £533,000.

Net profit of the United Kingdom companies was 33 per cent of turnover for the corresponding period of last year, due to two main factors. The industrial divisions as a whole were affected by rising costs and earned lower profits on marginally higher sales.

A substantial loss was incurred on insulation contracting, but the company believes this should partially be covered in the second half. The directors say that UK operating conditions are likely to remain difficult, particularly as they affect the individual divisions. However, overseas results are satisfactory and present indications are that group profit for the year will be better than that of 1970 although the improvement is unlikely to be substantial as indicated earlier.

The total dividend for 1971 is expected to remain unchanged at 30 per cent.

Rise in Armstrong Equipment profit

Armstrong Equipment reports increased profit and a higher dividend for the year to June 30.

Profit before tax is up from £1 million to £1.23 million. Tax was £418,000, against £451,000, the final dividend is 15½ per cent making a total of 22½ per cent for the year against 20 per cent in 1969/70.

Lower profit by bifurcated Eng.

Maintained turnover but lower profits for the six months to June 1971 were announced yesterday by Bifurcated Engineering.

Although turnover was held at £2.2 million, profit before tax fell from £285,000 to £252,000. Profit after tax is down from £170,000 to £151,000.

The interim dividend is maintained at 12½p. The board says the figures reflect a slight improvement in demand although there has been no dramatic increase in orders following the Government's attempts to reflate the economy.

G. W. Sparrow raises payout

G. W. Sparrow is increasing its interim dividend to 12½ per cent (against 12 per cent) and forecasting another profits record for the full year.

For the first half to June pre-tax profit is up from £151,000 to £205,000 and the board says there will be no corporation tax liability, although it will transfer a notional amount to reserves. It says the new Manchester depot will be operational in October.

Crossley interim raised one point

The recovery in the private construction industry has left its mark on the interim profits of Crossley Building Products.

For the first six months of 1971 profits after tax are up from £32,000 to £134,000 and the interim dividend has been increased from 6½ per cent to 7½ per cent.

In an interim statement chairman Sir Rupert Speir says that demand for the firm's products continues to run at a high level.

1-for-4 rights issue by Dutton-Forsshaw

The Dutton-Forsshaw Group has made arrangements for a rights issue of 1,718,596 ordinary shares of 25p each at 70p each.

The shares will be offered to ordinary shareholders registered on September 8 in the proportion of one for four.

Ordinary holders will also be entitled to apply for additional new ordinary shares representing fractions and shares not taken up under the provisional allotment letters.

The new issue is to be underwritten by Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation and the brokers are Rowe Swann and Co, in London, Rensburg and Co, in Liverpool and Bell, Lawrie, Robertson and Co, in Edinburgh.

Foreign control fear

THE SELLING of Mineral Securities assets to foreign companies has increased worries over the growing overseas control of Australian mineral resources.

Australians saw Minsec as a potential competitor to major foreign mineral companies developing Australian deposits, but Minsec's failure has led instead to increased foreign participation in Australian mineral ventures as overseas controlled groups have acquired three profitable mining concerns in the liquidation of Minsec's holdings.

Union Corporation of South Africa acquired from Minsec a 59.3 per cent of Australia's second largest mineral sands group, Cudgen RZ, and also a small shareholding in Consolidated Rutile in which Cudgen has a controlling interest. The cost for these purchases was \$413.9 million.

The Government of Canada paid \$89.4 million for a 5 per cent holding in Aberfoyle, a leading tin miner.

Union control of Cudgen means that the majority of Australian mineral sands output is controlled by foreign concerns.

Australia produces 95 per cent of the world's rutile but only one sixth of this annual output of 314,000 tons is controlled by Australian companies. Of the country's annual

production of 348,000 tons of zircon, 60 per cent of the world output, a quarter is mined by Australian companies.

In the third deal concerning Minsec's portfolio, Noranda Mines of Canada and the Australian Mutual Provident Society combined to buy its holdings in Queensland Mines and its parent Kathleen Investments (Australia) in March for an estimated \$17.2 million. Queensland's Naharlek uranium deposits have since been downgraded and Minsec's former holdings in these two companies are now valued at only \$4.5 million.

One reason why overseas companies find it so easy to buy into Australian mineral ventures is the lack of any Government policy concerning foreign participation in the development of the country's natural resources.

When Minsec started tottering former Prime Minister John Gorton tried to discourage foreign domination of Queensland Mines and Kathleen Investments, as well as other Australian companies. His successor, William McMahon, however, has given no indication that he plans

to restrict overseas activities in the mineral field. And Mr Gorton once said that Mr McMahon, as Finance Minister, showed "a most pathetic dog-like gratitude for foreign investments."

The fact that foreign companies have spent money on exploration is helping them, through tax write-offs, to take over companies that are operating.

For example, Cominco is believed to have exploration losses of about \$4.2 million which are tax-deductible against its anticipated earnings from Aberfoyle. And Noranda's Australian subsidiary has accumulated losses of \$2.5 million and Union Corporation also has some losses to offset profit from Cudgen and Consolidated Rutile.

Sir Ian McLennan, chairman of Australia's biggest company, Broken Hill Pty, last year told an Institute of Directors conference in Sydney: "If overseas companies are to continue to increase their control over the mining industry at the rate it was growing between 1963-7 there will be a virtually untenable situation by 1980."

He suggested tax concessions

for investors in Australian owned mining companies might help solve the problem.

But the managing director of Hamersley Holdings, R. T. Madigan, had a different opinion. Hamersley is controlled by Considine Rio Tinto of Australia, the biggest unit in Rio Tinto-Zinc of Britain.

In a speech to the Australian Society of Security Analysts in Melbourne, Mr Madigan said Hamersley invested \$430 million in fixed assets. He said within five years expenditure on plant, equipment and mining development would increase investment to \$680 million.

By that time, Mr Madigan could probably claim to have created \$25,500 to \$30,000 millions of income for Australia.

Mr Madigan said: "The new boom is providing the capital and the scale which will be the base for secondary industries which, in their turn, will be great and will be the essence of the Australian economy for the next century."

Dividends and interest were "a small price for Australia to pay."—A.P.-Dow Jones.

MARKET REPORT

Secondary issues make running

London stock markets again lacked a decided trend, though business continued at a reasonable level yesterday. Wall Street's current downturn and the emergence of one or two testing headlines on the wages front like the miners' big claim, kept buyers away from the leaders which closed lower.

However, good features were not hard to find among secondary issues, and some active speculation developed in company statements. The "Financial Times" index ended 3.8 points down at 425.5.

The start of the crucial Group of Ten talks coincided with a fresh, though modest, demand for gilts which rose by 1 to 1 and occasionally 1. Sterling's strength on the foreign exchanges also helped sentiment.

Leading industrials spent a quiet session and mostly closed 3p to 5p off. Electricals claimed

a good deal of attention with Plessey fluctuating rapidly following their results to close unchanged at 138p (after extremes of 140p, and 132½p). The profits short-fall was not as bad as feared by some market men.

Decca "A" 186p, put on 7p with the aid of their new TV range.

BATS, 8p down at 323p were prominently lower in tobaccoes. Breweries, too, lost ground as speculative buying dried up. The bid for the bid, Watney, but after reaching 149p, renewed demand brought a recovery to 152p, 5p easier on balance.

Fears of substantial steel price increases clipped shipbuilding issues among engineers, where the go-ahead for the RB-211 project helped Rolls-Royce contractors. Tubes, a good market lately, added 3p more to 450p in front of the bid for Newall Machine.

Dixons

All-time record profits

The Chairman's report continues

Although these results are substantially ahead of our previous achievements, they should not be regarded as exceptional. Over the past few years your company has continued to expand in size and increase its turnover. Your company is now poised to make further substantial progress from a very secure and highly organised base.

Retail Division. Our PRINZ photographic range continues to provide the major portion of our sales and remains unequalled in both quality and value.

In the growing audio and hi-fi section we are expanding our very successful PRINZ SOUND range of products. We are and intend to remain a very strong force in this field in the future. At the same time we are always experimenting with other merchandise in compatible fields to extend our range and to maximise the use of the selling areas of our stores.

The recent reductions in Purchase Tax and abolition of consumer credit restrictions have proved a valuable stimulus to our trade.

By April 1972 a further 11 stores will have been opened... 20 new stores are budgeted for 1972/73.

Processing Division. The excellent results are due to the continuing successful exploitation of the premium promotion markets, a field in which we are now the market leader.

We plan to effect a major extension within the next two or three years, and provide ourselves with the necessary capacity to handle further substantial volume increases.

European Sales Division. Shareholders will already have received a detailed circular issued at the time of our acquisition of Merkur AB in May 1971. In view of the date of the completion of the acquisition no profits have been included in these Group accounts, but the assets have been consolidated in the Group Balance Sheet.

Merkur, operating from Sweden, and Chinnon Sales SA operating from Switzerland, will enable the Group to obtain the benefits of selling the PRINZ, PRINZ SOUND and CHINON ranges to the leading European multiple and mail order houses.

Financial Re-Organisation. At the recent Extraordinary General Meeting we took the opportunity of bringing to the attention of the shareholders our plans to re-organise the company's capital structure.

The Group is well able to finance both its own major internal growth programme and still remain in an advantageous position for new acquisitions.

Future Developments. We have already acquired a stake in the future of the Common Market. The leisure field in which we operate is one of the high growth areas of the future and we are confident that in the next few years we will improve still further our present market share. It is our firm intention to expand your company into allied leisure fields as opportunities arise.

Current Trading. Group profits in the first four months of the current year are well ahead of last year and we look forward to another year of substantially increased profits.

SALES	1971 £'000	1970 £'000
Retail Sales Division	10,846	8,932
Film Processing Division	1,286	733
Total Group Sales	12,112	9,665

Group Profits before tax	228	226
Group Profits after tax	489	188
Ordinary Dividend	15%	10%
per 10p share (after Scrip Issue)	7.5p	1.0p

Copies of the Annual Report may be obtained from the Company Secretary, Dixons Photographic Limited, Dixons House, 18-24 High St., Edgware, HA8 7EG

Doxford and Sunderland Ltd

The Annual General Meeting is being held today, at The Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2.

The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. J. G. Huggill, F.C.A.

★ Since the closure of the shipyards through strike action in 1970 there has been an improvement in industrial relations in the shipyards. By May this year agreement had been reached with almost all trades on a new incentive bonus scheme to be associated with a system of work measurement.

★ Contracts to be completed in the current year will produce a trading loss which should be covered by that part of the provision for future losses applicable to those contracts. After taking account of profits anticipated from other activities it is not expected that the Company's reserves will be further reduced. Thereafter if the provision for future losses proves adequate our reserves should increase since from mid 1972 we shall also be engaged on contracts expected to be profitable.

★ At 31st March 1971 twenty-two ships with a total deadweight of 1,128,000 tons were on order. Worth more than £86m. During the year several ship contracts were awarded of which are expected to be profitable. It is not considered prudent to take credit for these profits in the provision for future losses.

★ The progress in General Engineering reported last year has continued.

★ We cannot afford wage increases which are not matched by improved productivity. Our future profitability will be affected by any action H.M. Government takes to curb further inflation, by our ability to contain costs within estimates and by our own efforts to raise productivity so as to maintain or improve scheduled deliveries.

Copies of the Report and Accounts and the Chairman's Statement may be obtained from the Secretary, Doxford and Sunderland Limited, P.O. Box 1, Felling, Sunderland, SR4 6TX.

MODERNA MODERNA LIMITED

Mr. Geo. Meredith, the Chairman, reports on 1971.

★ The Modernadown Continental type Quilt introduced last year, was highlighted as 'good value for money' and has made a useful contribution to profits.

★ As to the current year, all activities during the first quarter have shown increases over a similar period last year. In particular, Export orders for the quarter are in excess of the whole of last year. The overall trading outlook is therefore extremely promising.

Summary of results for the year

	1970	1971
Turnover	£1,549,010	£1,691,413
Profit before Tax	£27,314	£52,680
Dividend (proposed)	10%	(12%)

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Moderna Mills, Mytholmroyd, Halifax, Yorkshire.

Two exhibitions under the joint title "Looking Like Business" opened at the Design Centre in London yesterday illustrating, through case studies of companies in widely differing fields, how design is used by managements to support their corporate development and management policies. Pictured above is the corporate insignia of the Royal Bank of Scotland, one of the four winners of the 1971 Royal Society of Arts Presidential Award for Design Management.

Quinton Hazell expands

A major drive into Europe was announced yesterday by Mr Quinton Hazell, chairman of Quinton Hazell Holdings, at the company's annual meeting in Leamington Spa.

"We are going to put a chain of wholesale depots for the motor and allied trade across the Continent in the same way we have in Britain and Australia," he said.

Mr Hazell explained: "If we are going to continue to compete successfully with the motor industry with their tied outlets—not only in Britain but throughout the world—our own depots are vital."

Quinton Hazell, which exports to 157 countries, is now gearing production to increase its stake in Europe. In addition to the 44-acre factory site recently bought from BSA, Mr Hazell announced the acquisition of a 180,000 square foot plant on a 13-acre site at Preston, Lancashire.

The property, bought from the plastics division of English Electric, is to provide a 90 per cent increase in production capacity for the group's exhaust components manufacturing division.

Exports of sweets up

The total value of the UK confectionery industry's exports rose by £2,600,000—15.7 per cent during the first half of this year, compared with the corresponding period of 1970, the Cocoa, Chocolate and Confectionery Alliance announced yesterday.

The value was a record £16,700,000. The volume of chocolate and sugar confectionery exports also reached a record level—51,000 tons compared with 47,400 tons in the first six months of 1970.

'Ginger group' barrage

Mr Walter Salomon, chairman of Westminster Trust Holdings, the property company already on the receiving end of an £84 million bid from Land Securities, faced a two-hour barrage of questions from a shareholders' ginger group yesterday.

The ginger group, which claims the support of more than 13 per cent of the shares, is unhappy about a deal done some two years ago for the purchase of Thomas C. Stewart (Contractors) and the 80p-a-share offer from Land Securities. This bid already has irrevocable acceptances from 86 per cent of the Westminster shareholders and has the backing of the board.

Yesterday's annual meeting and the extraordinary meeting which followed—requested by the ginger group led by Mr L. I. Casper and Mr B. Simmons of Securities—saw the chairman closely quizzed on these and a number of other points. The dissenters met with little support from the 80 or so members present.

Two resolutions put at the extraordinary meeting, the first calling for an up-to-date revaluation of the company's property portfolio, and the second an independent accounts report into the trading activities of Stewart, were overwhelmingly defeated on a show of hands. Proxy support was already strongly in favour of the board.

A spokesman for the ginger group indicated after the meetings that they were still unhappy with the situation, especially the Stewart purchase and would like more information on this deal. A private meeting was to be arranged with the Westminster chairman to discuss the matter.

If this proved unsatisfactory, the spokesman said, they would consider approaching the department of trade and industry over the Stewart deal.

دعوات لاجل

Did Bank of America pull the rug from under Vesco?

ROBERT VESCO thought he was secretly acting for Bank of America in August 1970, when he moved to aid financially troubled IOS Limited. Mr Vesco explained how his intervention in IOS took place to a private hearing in April with United States Security and Exchange Commission investigators. The transcript of his testimony, under oath, became public only recently as part of a court record.

There was nothing in writing between him and Bank of America, Mr Vesco testified, and towards the end of August, 1970, the bank backed away from an arrangement. That, he said, left him alone with a multi-million-dollar obligation and "a serious case of indigestion." But for about two weeks after the announcement on August 9, 1970, that he would provide cash for IOS, Mr Vesco understood that he had a secret oral agreement with a top officer of the bank, Alvin C. Rice.

'Clean-out'

Under that agreement, Mr Vesco said, the Bank of America was quietly to provide the money to keep IOS in business while he did a "comprehensive review and clean-out job" at the Geneva-based complex of mutual funds, banks, and insurance companies. Once IOS's finances and reputation had been improved sufficiently, the bank "presumably" was to emerge and buy IOS, Mr Vesco said.

Mr Rice, now an executive vice-president of the bank, said the bank had "a lot of conversations" about IOS with Mr Vesco, but the bank came

nowhere near making any kind of agreement. No specific financing plan or takeover bid was considered, he said.

Mr Vesco "sent us a great deal of information," Mr Rice said, "but I can't say we ever looked at it very closely, because we didn't have any understanding in principle that we were going to do anything. Myself didn't look at it closely."

Mr Rice says that a representative from the bank's London office at one point went to Geneva at Mr Vesco's suggestion, "to try and determine if there was any way that the bank alone or with others could play a constructive part in IOS." But as for "backing out" of an agreement, he says, "since we were never in, I can hardly say that we withdrew."

Mr Rice said that if Bank of America had wanted to approach IOS it would not have used Mr Vesco as a front. "We can do that directly," Mr Rice said. He had been questioned by the SEC about the Bank of America's role though he said he was not aware of Mr Vesco's testimony until a reporter informed him.

Until the SEC investigators, Mr Vesco paraphrased the oral understanding this way: "The Bank of America would lend to a Bahamian subsidiary of ours for the purpose, in turn, of relending the money to IOS, with the intention that we would go in, unravel the mess, get rid of the skeletons, put a bow tie around the package, and deliver it to the BOA, which would subsequently then make an offer for the entire company."

The loan would run to \$10 million or \$20 million, Mr Vesco said. In return, IOS was

expected to give Mr Vesco's company, International Controls Corporation, an equity interest in IOS, probably in the form of warrants to buy IOS stock. International Controls was to split that interest with the bank.

"We, in effect, would have gotten half the deal for nothing," Mr Vesco told the SEC.

What actually happened was that Mr Vesco, who is chairman and chief executive of International Controls, arranged a \$5 million loan in additional credit for IOS from other sources. For that, International Controls received warrants to buy three million IOS common shares, plus two seats on the IOS board. Mr Vesco became chairman of a newly formed IOS finance committee.

Dominant

Though Mr Vesco said in August, 1970, that he was interested only in protecting his company's investment, he quickly became the dominant figure in IOS. In February this year, he was elected chairman of the board. Since then, he has been trying to get IOS back under control of IOS stock for International Controls.

Before Mr Vesco's SEC testimony in April, it was known that Bank of America once had been interested in taking part in an IOS rescue operation. In June, 1970, newspapers reported that the bank was part of a consortium of European and US banks to later repaid with proceeds of loans from Prudential Insurance Company of America.

Mr Vesco said he talked to representatives of several Euro-

pean banks, too. And after another call to Mr Rice, Mr Vesco got the "strong impression" that Bank of America "in fact" was ready to join any group formed by Mr Vesco to lead money to IOS.

On June 18, 1970, Mr Vesco wrote to Sir Eric Wyndham White, the IOS chairman, to propose a \$20 million line of credit for IOS in return for an "equity potential" in the "range" of one-third ownership.

Mr Vesco was talking to him about an offer by International Controls to buy back the bonds in exchange for new bonds with a lower face value and a higher interest rate, an exchange to which IOS agreed. (Such a pact would have reduced International Controls' bond debt and increased the IOS funds' bond interest earnings.)

Early in June, 1970, Mr Vesco said, Mr Buhl telephoned him to say that things were "falling apart." Then Mr Vesco phoned the Bank of America's Mr Rice, a senior vice-president at that time. Mr Rice, according to Mr Vesco, said the bank had a "continuing interest" in IOS but did not want it made known.

Mr Vesco said he called the bank because "they are our (International Controls) Bank." Bank of America had lent International Controls more than \$20 million in 1968, and later repaid with proceeds of loans from Prudential Insurance Company of America.

Mr Vesco said he talked to representatives of several Euro-

pean banks, too. And after another call to Mr Rice, Mr Vesco got the "strong impression" that Bank of America "in fact" was ready to join any group formed by Mr Vesco to lead money to IOS. On June 18, 1970, Mr Vesco wrote to Sir Eric Wyndham White, the IOS chairman, to propose a \$20 million line of credit for IOS in return for an "equity potential" in the "range" of one-third ownership.

Too high

IOS directors thought the price too high and rejected the proposals, Mr Vesco said. After another talk with Mr Rice, he wrote to IOS suggesting a smaller loan at a lesser price "to keep the ball rolling."

Meanwhile, the problems of IOS worsened. Mr Cornfield threatened a fight to regain control. Early in August, Mr Vesco received a transatlantic call from Marvin H. Hoffman, IOS financial officer, inviting another money offer. Mr Vesco said he called Prudential Insurance immediately, International Controls' loan agreement with the insurance company restricted International Controls outside agreements, and Prudential's approval would have been necessary for International Controls to advance money to IOS.

Mr Vesco said he called Mr Rice at Bank of America again. When that call was ended,

Mr Vesco asserted, he had been had a firm commitment to Bank of America to supply cash as a prelude to a takeover bid.

On August 8, the IOS accepted in principle a financing agreement with Mr Vesco. It was announced the next day that Bank of America soon sent a representative to look over a study of IOS, contained in a document that later came to be known as "the green book."

In the last week of August, Mr Vesco said, he was ready to send a representative to Francisco to sign an agreement with the bank when "a telephone call to a bank official over the week were fruitless."

Richard W. Pershing, a friend of Mr Vesco's in San Francisco, later told Mr Vesco the bank backed out because of changes in its management. There was "executing a lateral move" was making a "lateral move" and the bank management decided "it was imprudent to proceed," Mr Vesco said he told.

Though the bank was International Controls still committed to its IOS agreement, Mr Vesco went back to Prudential to get approval for a national Controls to advance \$5 million while the bank went on for another back to take Bank of America's Prudential said Internat Controls could advance no more than \$1 million for 30 to 60 days.

Not long after, however, Vesco arranged for Bank of America to assume the entire \$5 million of loans he had arranged. IOS.

Japanese counter pollution

Investment in anti-pollution equipment by major Japanese manufacturing firms is increasing sharply compared with other business investments, according to a survey just released by the Japan Development Bank.

The survey covers a total of 587 major Japanese manufacturing firms. It shows that during fiscal 1971, which began in April, companies plan to invest a total of 302,000 million yen (\$372 million) in anti-pollution equipment, 86 per cent more than in 1970.

The figures represent 6.2 per cent of total investment, compared with 4.1 per cent during 1970.

Steel producers are the largest investors in anti-pollution equipment.

Return of confidence in world bond market

Confidence is slowly returning to the international financial markets. Next week Firestone, the American tyre manufacturer, is bringing out a 100 million Deutschmark bond issue.

It will be followed by another one, later this month, from Continental Oil. The rate for loans is about 8 per cent but it may have fallen by the time the two issues come out.

This week Cummins Engine and International Standard Electric, a subsidiary of the giant International Telephones and Telegraphs, have both announced their intention to seek long term international capital.

Cummins is raising a \$20 million convertible loan at 6 1/2 per cent interest with a prem-

By RAMON EISENSTEIN

lump of about 12 per cent on the price of the shares. International Standard Electric is raising \$25 million through a direct Eurobond issue bearing interest at 9 per cent. The high rate will probably make it a success.

These are not the only straws in the wind. Dealers in the secondary market are hoping that they will now be able to sell to outsiders after a long period of doing business with one another.

One of the reasons of the renewed hope is that Enel, the Italian State electricity board, is repaying early \$300 millions of medium term loans.

The size of it has already helped to lower short term Eurodollar rates. But secondary market dealers think that much

of the money will be recycled into the bond business.

Another reason for optimism is that most dealers think that the dollar has already been discounted enough in terms of the mark and that there is now a case for switching back into dollar bonds.

The mere fact that there has been no panic in the relatively new international bond market is in itself a good sign. Another one is that new ideas for using international capital are still pouring in.

The latest one, announced yesterday, is the proposal to establish secondary mortgage markets in Europe for all sorts of mortgages. The proposal was made by Mr Preston Martin, chairman of the United States Federal Home Loans Association, to the eighth world congress of the International Union of Building Societies.

'Too little evidence on V & G'

A former top civil servant told the V & G Insurance Company inquiry committee yesterday that in 1964 he had agreed there were not sufficient grounds for an inspector to be appointed to look into the company. He did not, he said, now have any doubts on the opinion he formed then.

"I relied on the factual accuracy of the statements put up to me," said Sir Richard Powell, former Permanent Secretary at the Board of Trade and now chairman of Albright and Wilson and a director of HRI Samuel.

He said the company came to his notice in various ways—"Firstly, through conversations with the BIA (British Insurance Association) informally, and secondly, through the Secretary of State, Mr Heath (the present Prime Minister) who must have spoken to me and asked me to give advice about the company in the light of something said to him."

Asked by Sir Elwyn Jones, QC, for shareholders and policyholders if the Board of Trade was being criticised for inaction or excessive reluctance in the exercise of its powers, Sir Richard said that allowing for the fact that an MP had written to the president, "some concern" must have existed at that time.

Asked if there were criticisms that the department was too reluctant to use its powers under the Companies Act in regard to shaky companies, he said that comments were in his view "based largely on the belief that the department's powers went wider than in fact on our legal advice, they did."

Sir Richard was then asked if he was involved in considering interpretation of powers given under Section 109 of the 1967 Act, which gave the power to compel a company to produce documents.

"Not to my recollection. I knew I had been advised that the powers under the 1968 Act were deficient and that they needed extension and I was certainly involved in that as a matter of policy, but as far as I can recollect not in the way of preparation or the handling of the legislation as it was going through Parliament," he replied.

"If there had been doubts in the department about the extent to which they should use these powers I would have known about it, but I have no recollection of that between the passing of the Act and my departure from the Board of Trade."

He understood that apart from the powers of appointing an inspector, the department was entitled to ask questions from a company and to send for, unofficially, directors of a company.

Mr Templeman: "Did you know if V & G were being asked searching questions and giving satisfactory answers?"

Sir Richard: "I was informed that they were under surveillance and that the questions so far as I recall were being satisfactorily answered."

He added he had "every confidence" in Mr Nall and Mr Homewood (two department officials in the insurance section).

Sir Richard said he understood that the 1958 Act gave the board powers to act only when, in its view, there were reasonable grounds for suspecting existing situations of insolvency, whereas under the 1967 Act, powers were given to enable them to enquire into a situation where there were reasonable grounds to suspect that a situation might arise.

Sir Richard, who said he preferred his people to make their own decisions, all things being equal, went on: "I have no recollection of V & G coming to my notice after November, 1964, except when I read with interest that it had been admitted to membership of the BIA in 1968."

The tribunal continues today.

Profit of Miles Druce halved

The profits of Miles Druce Stockholders, distributors and other metals, have halved in the first six months of 1971.

Pre-tax group profit for the six months to June 30 amounts to £744,000, compared with £1,471,000 for the corresponding period last year. After deducting corporation tax of £280,000 (£543,000) and preference dividend of £40,000 (£403,000), the profit is £264,000, against £888,000.

The chairman, Mr David L. M. Robertson, reports that trading conditions continued to deteriorate during the first eight months of this year. It is now thought that some improvement in conditions should develop. In these circumstances, the board reaffirms its estimate that earnings per share in 1971 will be at least 5p (against 9.1p in 1970). In this event, a final dividend of 3p per share would be proposed, making the same total distribution as last year.

An interim ordinary dividend of 2 1/2p per share will be paid.

Kulim issue oversubscribed

The Kulim Group announced yesterday that its rights issue of £100,000, 10 per cent unsecured convertible loan stock 1992/97 was oversubscribed. Acceptances totalled approximately 75 per cent in value and applications for excess stock brought the total subscribed to £949,863.

Profit decline at AE Potteries

There has been a marked decline in the profits of Allied English Potteries in the first half to June of the current year. On sales of £4.9 millions (against £4.7 millions) pre-tax profit has fallen from £214,000 to £189,000. Profit after tax is £119,000 against £118,000.

The board reports that reduced trading activity in the earthenware and specialised container sections coupled with the impact of the latest United States' restrictions are likely to limit the normal improvements in profits in the second half of the year. The interim dividend is held at 4 pence but there is a warning that the final dividend may be cut.

Blagden Noakes has steady half

Profit of Blagden Noakes (Holdings) has been maintained in the first six months to June 1971 and the board is paying a steady interim dividend of 9 pence.

A fall in the profit of the packaging division has left pre-tax profit at £294,000 (against £377,000) in spite of a £2.2 million rise in sales to £7.9 million. Profit after tax is down from £170,000 to £151,000.

J. L. Kier will raise final

A sharp increase in profits for the year to March 1971 was reported yesterday by J. L. Kier and Co. Profit after tax has increased to £769,000 (against £581,000).

The board proposes to pay an increased final dividend of 14 pence making a total for the year of 25 pence compared with 22 1/2 pence in 1970.

Increased revenue by Scottish Met.

Net revenue of Scottish Metropolitan Property increased from £1.46 million to £1.72 million in the year to August 1971. Profit before taxation was also higher at £583,000 (against £555,000).

Profit available for distribution after an increased transfer from reserves relating to net

Fund's top man resigns

Continued harassment "self-serving action by shareholders" from Robert E. Slater to resign president of IOS Ltd., a subsidiary of the financial company.

But Morton I. Schiowitz, former IOS chief financial officer who is leading the dent campaign, responded, "I am doing what we think is for the company. If Mr S. feels he can't live with this, he must do what he thinks best."

In Geneva, Milton F. M. ner, IOS's executive vice-president, confirmed the departure of Robert E. Slater. Slater came in Fairfield, Jersey, from Robert L. V. chairman of both IOS and International Controls Corp. men blamed the disloyal group that has been trying to oust the Vesco manager through proxy contest court fights.

Mr Slater, in his statement, said Mr Slater "has been disturbed over the self-serving action of the old management and the resulting publicity which has shadowed the progress made by the present management team."

As for Mr Slater, he said that "it is a great regret that IOS has lost an innovative thinker and valuable executive because of the continued harassment by a dissent group of shareholders."

Both executives said Mr S. would continue to serve "in a consulting capacity, long as the present management remains in control."

Mr Slater, who took up job last October, asserted there is no question that international mutual fund management company has to be around.

Freight depression hits Lyle Shipping

The depressed level of the freight market has hit the profits of Lyle Shipping. Pre-tax profits are down from £501,000 to £271,000, although the interim dividend has been held at 8 pence.

The company has also made provision for a loss of £370,000 on pre-payments to Upper Clyde Shipbuilders. The loss has been charged against general reserve.

The interim statement says that there is no indication at the moment of any improvement in the freight market, but the board is expecting some improvement in second half profits.

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Case is put for political reform

By IAN AITKEN

A delegation from the Northern Ireland Labour Party which yesterday met the Home Secretary, Mr. Maudling, made it clear at a press conference afterwards that it was totally opposed to internment without trial.

The announcement that 219 internment orders had been issued by Mr. Faulkner was described as "one step towards a real bloodbath in Northern Ireland."

Mr. Vivian Simpson, the last remaining Opposition MP still formally attending sittings of the Stormont Parliament, said: "We are very badly disturbed. As a party we are totally opposed to internment. As a policy, internment is counter-productive politically, even if it is justified militarily."

Mr. Maudling was continuing his series of talks with grass-roots organisations from Northern Ireland at the Home Office. Mr. Simpson and his colleagues brought with them a formal Northern Ireland Labour Party petition for political reform in Ulster, including the creation of a Community Government of Social Reconstruction, the introduction of proportional representation in elections for the Stormont Parliament, the enlargement of the Senate and the House of Commons in Northern Ireland, and the carrying out of the committee system advocated by the Northern Ireland Prime Minister, Mr. Faulkner, earlier this year.

The delegation made it clear that it believes there should be a Northern Ireland Conference along the lines proposed by Mr. Maudling and that it should be confined to democratic political parties and the representatives of other bodies which forswear violence.

Not an issue

Northern Ireland's position as an integral self-governing entity within the United Kingdom should not be an issue at the conference, a policy statement issued by the delegation said. But Mr. Simpson and his colleagues also proposed the formation of a legal security commission of eminent lawyers from Great Britain and Northern Ireland, under the chairmanship of a distinguished Commonwealth judge, charged with the assessment of the case against those held under internment, and to keep developments in the field of security under constant surveillance.

The delegation suggested to Mr. Maudling that such a commission should be convened on neutral territory, such as the Isle of Man, that it should make provision for the security of witnesses appearing before it, and that witnesses should be allowed to be represented by counsel.

Mr. Archie McArdle, a Belfast fireman, added a plea for swift action to end the present situation. "We are going to be left with a ghost city. I am speaking as a fire officer and people in that capacity have been working right round the clock. It is impossible for them to continue working in that way. We are debilitated by the mad bombers, and by people, including MPs, who make foolish statements."

While Mr. Simpson and his colleagues were meeting Mr. Maudling, the Shadow Cabinet was meeting at Westminster to prepare for next week's emergency two-day debate.

In spite of pressure to table a motion attacking the Government's handling of the Ulster situation, Shadow Ministers, under the chairmanship of Mr. Roy Jenkins (Mr. Wilson is in Moscow) decided to postpone a decision on whether to force a vote at the end of the debate.

However, it was already clear yesterday that there will be a division at the end of the debate, whether the Shadow Cabinet decides to make it official or not. A substantial number of backbench Labour MPs have every intention of voting against the Government even on a simple motion for the adjournment of the House if the Shadow Cabinet decides not to force a vote.

Mr. Jenkins and his colleagues did decide, however, on the front-bench speakers for the two-day debate. Mr. Callaghan, the Shadow Home Secretary, will open on the first day, with Mr. Roy Hattersley winding up that night. Mr. Wilson will open the second day's debate, with Mr. George Thomson winding up.

IRA claims credit for 2 killings

From DEREK BROWN in Belfast

The Provisional wing of the IRA yesterday claimed credit for killing two soldiers in Northern Ireland on Tuesday. It did not claim any more victims yesterday, although the day contained several potential tragedies.

In Belfast, three petrol bombs were hurled at a bus filled with 30 handicapped children from St. Aloysius's Roman Catholic school. The bus was attacked by a group of youths in the Protestant Springfield Road. The bus was badly burned. Two of the children were taken to hospital with minor injuries and one was detained.

Shots were fired at the army in Belfast during the day and the soldiers returned about 10 rounds. A number of gelignite bombs and nail bombs were also thrown at the soldiers, but there were no casualties.

The soldier shot in the stomach in Belfast on Tuesday died in hospital last night. He was Private Paul Stephen Carter, aged 21, of the 2nd Battalion, Queen's Regiment, who came from Brighton. As he guarded an entrance to the Royal Victoria Hospital, gunmen fired several shots from a passing car. Private Carter is the twenty-first regular soldier to be killed in Northern Ireland this year.

Sectional violence erupted in the Ardoyne area of Belfast yesterday afternoon. Catholic families living in four streets in the mainly Protestant Old Park area claimed that their children were surrounded by "Orange youths" who were attacking their children and threatening to burn their houses.

Protestants in the area predictably blamed all the trouble on the Catholics, who they said attacked Protestant schools.

Children and soldiers and police kept the two sides apart, but not before a garage, a public house and a clothing factory had been set on fire. Four nail bombs were thrown at the soldiers and there were also being stoned by Catholic youths. In Londonderry, there were renewed attacks on the Blighs Lane army post. Thirty rubber bullets were fired at a group of children trying to cut through

the wire mesh perimeter fence with a hacksaw. The trouble started early in the morning when CS gas was used to disperse a crowd trying to break into the post. Later, a single shot was fired into the post, but it did not hit anyone.

A civilian shot by the army in Londonderry on Tuesday night was named yesterday as Mr. William McGrenary, 22, of the Strand Street. The army said he was raising a rifle as if to fire into the Blighs Lane post. He was dragged away by other men when an army marksman hit him with a single shot, but was discovered later in a van which was attempting to cross the Craigavon bridge over the river Foyle. He died later in hospital.

Mr. McGrenary's family, who denied he was armed, said yesterday they did not want anyone else to use his death "to arouse hatred or revenge."

One of the biggest bombs ever found in Northern Ireland, containing 75lb. of gelignite, was discovered and defused by soldiers on the Coalisland to Dungannon Road, near the spot where an army convoy was ambushed in the early hours of yesterday morning.

The soldier who was killed in the ambush was Private John Rudman, of the 2nd Battalion, Queen's Regiment, who was 21, single, and came from West Hartlepool. Two other soldiers were slightly hurt in the machine gun attack.

A massive police search was launched last night after the disappearance of a constable whose burned-out police car was found on the border in County Tyrone. He was Constable Cairns Culbert, a married man aged about 50, with a son in the police force.

Release of internees only 'window dressing'

From ALAN SMITH in Dublin

Further "window dressing" releases of internees, designed to make easy cases for a projected appeal procedure, were predicted last night by Mr. Seamus O'Tuathail, the former editor of the "United Irishman", who was among the first 13 to be released from detention in Belfast.

Mr. O'Tuathail is a respected Dublin journalist, and was a regular contributor to the "Irish Times", which carried reports of conditions inside Crumlin Road gaol which he managed to have smuggled out in the early days of his detention.

He said last night that a larger number of releases was expected. The cynical explanation was that a board of appeal was to be established, and that Mr. Faulkner had signed orders against a number of obvious cases in which the board was

likely to recommend release in order to give it a head start. These were the clear cases of mistaken identity and of those obviously harmless people who had been picked up, he said, simply because they had been active in IRA campaigns in the previous generation.

As an example of the first category, he cited Mr. Charles Fleming, who, he said, was well into his 60s and who was arrested by soldiers after they had asked him his name, leaving his son, of the same name, asleep in bed. Of the latter category, he mentioned Mr. Liam Mulholland, who is interned in Crumlin Road gaol, who was first interned in 1929. "The idea that one of these people are a threat to the security of the State is absolute bogwash," he said.

The present view of internees, he said, was that the "no rent, no rates" campaign of civil disobedience should be continued, not merely until all internees had been released but until the Special Powers Act had been removed.

Crumlin Road gaol was overcrowded, he said, and the food unsatisfactory. Ninety per cent of those held had been treated brutally at one time or another, and even prison officers had been horrified at the treatment by the soldiers when prisoners were banded over.

Mr. Gerry Fitz, leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, said last night he was bitterly disappointed that internment orders had been signed in Northern Ireland. It would make it utterly impossible for his party to join the present round of Maudling talks.

"How can we talk about responsible participation in Government while our constituents are interned? How can we even go just to talk about internment when the door has been slammed like this?" he said.

First reactions in Dublin to the internment orders were, predictably, anger and shock, followed by a certain bewilderment. Political leaders see it as a major setback to hopes of a new deal "emerging."

STOP PRESS

BERNAL DEAD

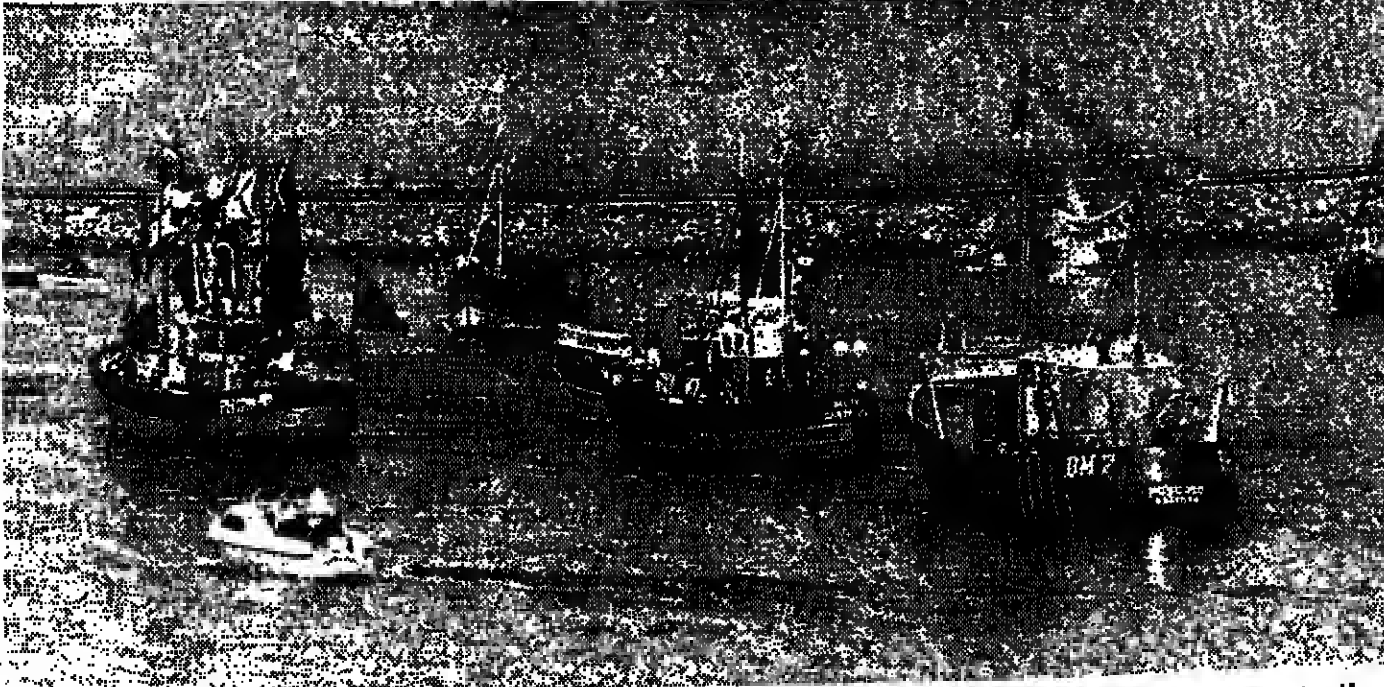
Professor John Desmond Bernal, the scientist, died in London yesterday after a long illness. He was aged 70.

ULSTER: KIDNAPPED

PC IS FREED

(See this page)

Ulster policeman released last night after being kidnapped and taken across border into Irish Republic. Constable Cairns Culbert was taken blindfolded over border, and left to walk to Customs post.



Trawlers and crabbers from ports in the South-west are on their way to Westminster in a demonstration against Britain joining the Common Market. Yesterday they entered Folkestone and will sail up the river Thames tomorrow to moor near the Houses of Parliament. A deputation hopes to present a petition of 10,000 signatures to Mr. Heath who will be told of fishermen's fears that Britain's territorial fishing limit might be reduced as a condition of joining the Common Market.

Yellow peril in door

THE SECRETARY for the Environment is to try to end a three-month disagreement over the colour of a front door. Mr. Walker has asked for evidence to help him to make a decision.

He must decide between the pale primrose chosen by Miss Edmunda Wellesley-Colley and a dark brown or black favoured by Bath council.

The row began in June when the council insisted that Miss Wellesley-Colley, a pensioner and a descendant of the first Duke of Wellington—needed planning permission for the repainted front door and matching roller blinds at her home at The Circus, Miss Wellesley-Colley said yesterday that for Mr. Walker to take the final decision "seems a very underhand way of doing things. It smacks of dictatorship."

"I appealed against the council's decision and I imagined that there would have to be a public appeal. I believe this is a test case and is something that concerns families throughout Britain. Everyone should have the right to choose the colour of his own front door."

Unions ending disputes pact

By KEITH HARPER

Union leaders representing three million shipbuilding and engineering workers took a decision yesterday which could increase industrial trouble.

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions meeting in London gave three months' notice of its intention to end the 49-year-old procedure agreement for handling disputes. This decision has to be ratified by a full meeting of the CSEU executive at York today, and there is no doubt that it will be.

Mr. Hugh Scanlon, president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, was unable to forecast whether there would be more or less industrial trouble. In effect, the decision means that when trouble breaks out on the shop floor the procedure will not be used.

It is unlikely, however, that management or unions would allow such a situation to last. For nearly three years, the general of the Engineering Employers' Federation, which has more than 4,500 member firms, said last night that satisfactory local procedures would not be discouraged.

The CSEU are known to be worried about ending the procedure, but they apparently kept quiet yesterday. Today, Mr. Jack Service, the CSEU's general secretary, will be writing to its 24 unions serving the required notice.

For many years, the EEF and the unions have been discussing ways of settling grievances of either side more quickly than the present laborious process provides. Many differences have been removed but an exception is the "status quo" provision. The unions want the right to object

to any change in working methods. Management says that to keep the wheels turning it must be allowed to implement decisions taken immediately.

OBITUARY

Lady Rowallan

Lady Rowallan, the wife of Lord Rowallan, the former Chief Scout of Rowallan, Kilmarlock, has died. She was 72. Lady Rowallan is the sister of Mr. J. Grimond, the former Leader of the Liberal Party. In 1918 she married Lord Rowallan, who was Chief Scout of the Commonwealth from 1945 to 1959.

She was a tennis champion who won the Scottish Ladies' doubles with her sister four times, and also played at Wimbledon. She had taken a great interest in the Royal Samaritan Hospital for Women in Glasgow, served as a member of the Western Regional Hospital Board, and in the 1960s received an honorary life governorship of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

Teachers' pay

Teachers at colleges of education will have to wait to discover whether their latest claim for revised pay is approved. The Pelham Committee yesterday failed to reach agreement over the claim. It will ask the Secretary of State for Employment to set up an arbitration tribunal to investigate the claim.

Liberal views defined

Continued from page one

great dissatisfaction with the National League of Young Liberals and the leadership in particular.

The report's proposal that membership of the party should first be by entry into the main party is not universally approved. It would imply a degree of organisation which the Liberal Party does not expect to achieve though Mr. Richard Wainwright, the chairman of the party, is understood to agree that any candidate for office should be a member of the main party.

The Young Liberals dislike the membership test proposal and regard the report as largely "irrelevant." The report itself rejects all proposals for the disbandment of the Young Liberals, particularly in view of the history of the Labour Party and the Young Socialist Movement. The report notes that the Young Liberals "care more than any other generation before them about the welfare and dignity of individual people, not only in this country but throughout the world."

The "welfare and dignity" of immigrants, among which Lord Wade spoke in moving an emergency motion, reaffirming opposition to the Immigration Bill, was present in the minds of most delegates, many of whom stood in appreciation of Lord Wade's speech and of his work on the Bill in the Lords. Lord Wade promised more opposition when Parliament reassembled, and his objections to the Bill were supported by all who spoke.

Conference report, page 7; Miscellaneous, page 13

THE WEATHER

October warm and dry

THE WEATHER for next month will be warmer than usual and rather dry, the London Weather Centre said yesterday. During the first week rather unsettled weather is likely in many N districts, but it will be mainly dry over Wales and most of England.

Over the 30-day period as a whole a good deal of dry weather is expected in all areas, with one or two short wet spells. Over England and Wales the wet spells seem more likely around the turn of the month or later. Morning fog may be rather

more frequent than in recent years near industrial areas.

The mean temperature over the period is likely to be above the seasonal average everywhere. Rainfall totals will probably be below average in W Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, the Midlands, and W districts of England, but near average elsewhere. The centre also reported yesterday that dry, anticyclonic weather had predominated over the United Kingdom from mid-August until mid-September, and that the mean temperature was above average.

AROUND BRITAIN							
Report for the 24 hours ended 6 p.m. yesterday						Angley...	6.2
	Sun- day	Mon- day	Tue- day	Wed- day	Thur- day	Athyahy, or Drogheda...	1.2
	Temp.	Wind	Max. Temp.	Wind	Cloud	Silly, Lough Shilly, Lough...	1.2
EAST COAST							
Scarborough...	0.6	14	24	SE	Dull		
Doncaster...	0.6	14	24	SE	Dull		
Sheffield...	0.7	17	23	Sunny			
Leeds...	0.7	17	23	Sunny			
Bradford...	0.7	17	23	Sunny			
Nottingham...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Sheff. & Notts...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Souths...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Norths...	0.7	17	23	Sunny			
Manx Bay...	0.7	17	23	Sunny			
Manx...	0.4	16	21	Sunny			
SOUTH COAST							
Falmouth...	2.5	18	25	Sunny			
Exeter...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Eastbourne...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Weymouth...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Portsmouth...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Hayling Is...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Hyde...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Weymouth...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Shanklin...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Southampton...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Gosport...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Swanage...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Weymouth...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Exmouth...	0.4	17	23	Sunny			
Weymouth...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Torquay...	0.7	18	25	Sunny			
Weymouth...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Penzance...	0.6	17	23	Sunny			
Jersey...	4.8	19	27	Sunny			
WEST COAST							
Cardiff...	4.2	01	17	63	SUNNY		
Morriston...	1.08	16	21	61	SUNNY		
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